

**THE TIMES Tomorrow**

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**Racket**  
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**Basnett warning to unions**  
Trade unions must recognize that Labour is no longer the automatic choice as an alternative government and they need to face "unpalatable facts" about future policies and strategy, Mr David Basnett, general secretary of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trade Union, says today in his union's journal Page 2

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*Calman*

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## Begin's decision to quit leaves Israel without a leader

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

An intensive and destabilizing period of political bargaining is under way in Israel to find an agreed successor to Mr Menachem Begin, the country's sixth Prime Minister, who announced yesterday beyond any remaining doubt that he is standing down.

The start of the complex process designed to find an alternative leader for the shaky Likud coalition capable of securing a parliamentary majority coincided with Israel's agreement to a second, brief postponement in the redeployment of its occupying troops in Lebanon.

The agreement to delay the pull-back - which had been scheduled to start at first light today - came after an urgent request from President Reagan transmitted by his special envoy, Mr Robert McFarlane. It was announced on Israel's army radio network, which explained only that it would be for "a very limited period".

Mr Begin's final decision to retire from political life at the age of 70 - as he first foreshadowed some six years ago - was communicated to coalition leaders during an emotional, two-hour meeting. Afterwards, one of the participants said: "It is a very sad day. But we could see there was no longer any point in trying to persuade him to stay on."

In an effort to thwart any efforts by the opposition Labour Party to put together a rival coalition, Mr Begin acceded to a request from his ministers for a short delay before handing his resignation letter to the Israeli President, Mr Chaim Herzog. It was unclear whether this will be for days or weeks.

The Likud leaders hope that the

interregnum will be sufficient for them to build a new coalition, but it was no means certain they would succeed without the invaluable political cement provided by the personality of Mr Begin - even during his last months of personal decline.

Hopes that an agreed successor

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could be found without a political struggle diminished when Mr David Levy, the deputy prime minister, announced there would be "more than one" contender. Earlier, it had been suggested by backers of the front-runner, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, that Mr Levy had agreed to a No 2 position.

At the age of 67, Mr Shamir was seen by observers as the uncharismatic stop-gap candidate who might hold the coalition together, but who would be unlikely to win many votes. Mr Levy, a Sephardic Jew, has a much more popular following but is opposed by certain coalition members whose support is vital to secure the necessary 61 votes in the 120-member Parliament.

One plan being canvassed was to restore Mr Ariel Sharon, the discredited former Defence Minister, to the chairmanship of the influential cabinet committee responsible for expanding Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

Although the Labour Party with 50 seats has more deputies than the Likud with 48, it would be powerless to form a new

government if sufficient minor parties agreed to stick by the Likud under Mr Begin's successor. To do so, they may be expected to ask for extra concessions for their own sectional and religious interests.

By last night, as the haggling got under way both in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, many Israeli commentators argued that the most likely outcome of Mr Begin's departure will be a move to bring the next general election forward from 1985 to a new date early next year.

The uncertainty which the resignation will encourage both inside Israel and in the Middle East has increased international concern about the region's immediate future. Western diplomats here found it hard to see the delay in Israel's redeployment extending beyond a few days or weeks at the most.

The closeness to which the pullback had already come was shown by the fact that television cameramen selected to film the operation on a pooled basis had already been dispatched northwards. Public pressure remains intense for the redeployment to go ahead as soon as possible.

After yesterday's meeting with Mr Begin, the conviction grew that he was retiring because of mental and physical fatigue, rather than any political reason. "He told us simply that he felt he was not able to continue," explained Rabbi Shlomo Lorenz of the Agudat Israel Party. "He said that it was a personal matter, that he just could not go on."

Mr Uri Porat, the Prime Minister's press secretary, confirmed that Mr Begin would be

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## British troops under fire for first time in Lebanon

From Kate Dorrain, Beirut

The British contingent of the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut came under attack for the first time yesterday as the Lebanese Army battled against an alliance of Shia Muslim and Druze militias in the city.

The French also came under fire and one soldier was killed and two others wounded, but there were no casualties among the British troops.

The attack on the British patrol happened near the Galilee Semina crossing point between the east and west sectors of the city while Colonel David Roberts, commander of the Queen's Dragoon Guards, was driving in a Land-Rover escorted by four Ferret scout cars. The convoy was sprayed with bullets and rocket-propelled grenades, one of which exploded in front of Colonel Roberts's vehicle, according to Major Stuart Bennet, a spokesman for the British contingent.

Colonel Roberts could not be reached for comment at his headquarters in Hadatha, where electricity cuts in Beirut had disrupted telephone circuits. The British commander had been on his way to a meeting with Mr Richard Palmer, the British chargé d'affaires at the Embassy here.

Major Alain de Lestrade, spokesman for the 2,000-man

French contingent of the peacekeeping force said that unknown attackers had opened fire on a French water tanker, also near the Galilee Semina, damaging the vehicle with what he described as "a medium or large calibre projectile".

The Reagan Administration has made clear that there will be no immediate change in the status of US participation in the Lebanon multinational peacekeeping force, despite congressional pressure to invoke the 1973 War Powers Act, which would enable the marines to be withdrawn within 60 to 90 days Page 4

Major Bennet said no one was injured in the attack. Colonel Roberts had later been informed that one of the wounded French soldiers was in need of "A" negative blood at Al Hayat hospital. In a show of military solidarity, Colonel Roberts radioed headquarters, discovered two British soldiers with the same blood type and sent them to the hospital.

On Monday, two American Marines were killed and 14 wounded in shelling and rocket attacks on Beirut airport, where the 1,200-man US Marine contingent is based. It was not clear if

the two attacks yesterday and the shelling of the airport, were related.

By Tuesday afternoon, militiamen were on top of the damaged Holiday Inn hotel near the sea front and the radio said they were sniping at Marine units near the former American Embassy, which was bombed last April.

United States Navy Cobra helicopters hovered low as the sniping went on and Marines with binoculars were trying to pin down the source of the sniping.

For the first time, the United States aircraft carrier Eisenhower was sighted yesterday off the Beirut coast. Major Bob Jordan, a spokesman for the Marines said the vessel had been in the area for "some time" and had been involved in joint air-sea exercises between the Egyptians and Americans in Egypt.

He said the aircraft carrier had moved to a position closer to Beirut as "support".

Lebanese Army units in various parts of the capital were attacked and the Voice of Lebanon radio, run by the right-wing Phalange Party, reported it had received calls from residents in west Beirut claiming militiamen had been storming homes, looting and plundering as they went along.



Mr Begin: 'No point in trying to persuade him to stay on'

## Hattersley attacks 'ticket for defeat'

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley said last night that the Labour Party would guarantee yet another general election defeat if it was stupid enough to elect a joint Kinnoch-Mecher leadership ticket at the party conference on October 2.

Mr Kinnoch's main challenger for the leadership said in an interview on Radio Clyde "If Neil Kinnoch was elected leader and then Michael Meacher was elected deputy, there would be people who were actually saying and voting for the proposition that they didn't want a compromise within the party; they didn't want a balanced leadership; they didn't want the broad church; they wanted exclusive brethren; they wanted a very narrow view of the Labour Party's philosophy and belief."

He also added: "I don't believe that the Labour Party would be stupid enough to do that because to do that would be to throw away any chance of winning the next general election."



Mr Hattersley and Mr Meacher: Challenge is growing

Mr Hattersley's words are more remarkable because he has so far refused to rise to the deputy leadership challenge posed by Mr Meacher, preferring instead to concentrate on the contest with Mr Kinnoch for the leadership.

Mr Meacher himself said on August 10 that the so-called "dress ticket" of Mr Kinnoch and Mr Hattersley was a recipe for continued destructive internal party wrangling.

But the finality of Mr Hattersley's words, talking of the party throwing away "any chance" of winning an election puts his comments into a different political league.

Some MPs might take his views as an indication of the strength of Mr Meacher's challenge and the growing realization that Mr Hattersley faces defeat in the two contests. But, if Mr Hattersley also feels that such a result would mean the end of Labour consensus, that could raise doubts over his future role in the party.

However, in a separate interview, Mr Hattersley predicted last night that he will win the Labour leadership contest if the seven uncommitted unions follow the wishes of their members. He conceded that Mr Kinnoch is currently ahead in the race but, during an interview on Scottish Television, he refused to admit defeat. "Nobody knows who is going to win, nor will they, I think, until the evening of October 2. The sensible newspapers describe Neil Kinnoch as the front runner. He certainly is."

"But it's a long race, it's a five week race still."

Meanwhile, it became clear yesterday that Mr Meacher has taken a calculated decision to risk himself of the damaging public image that he is a political cypher of Mr Wedgwood Benn.

A number of Mr Meacher's close political colleagues were yesterday taking exception to the "hard left" and "Bennie" labels which have been applied to the deputy leadership candidate in recent weeks, seeing them as a deliberate attempt by some sections of the press to "smeat" Mr Meacher by association.

He had been a close supporter and friend of Mr Benn, but that did not mean that they agreed on all things. Mr Meacher's conversion to the view that a Labour government should test public opinion on the unilateral renunciation of polaris, if necessary by referendum, was cited as an example of his political individuality.

## Gunmen kill general in Santiago

Santiago (Reuters) - Unidentified gunmen yesterday shot dead the Chief Administrator of Santiago, a retired general, two days after President Augusto Pinochet lifted a state of emergency following bloody protests against military rule in Chile.

Major-General Carlos Urrutia, aged 57, was killed not far from his home when attackers opened fire on his car with a machine gun from the back of a pickup truck, a government statement said.

His driver and his escort were also killed in the burst of gunfire at 9.15 am in a smart suburb of Santiago. A news agency said more than 60 bullets hit the car. Police said the pickup truck was found nearby.

Police sealed off the area, threw up roadblocks and closed roads to Santiago and mounted special controls at the airport. Helicopters swept low over rooftops.

It was the most serious attack against a member of the armed forces since President Pinochet took power in a coup 10 years ago.

His recently appointed Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa, has begun political reforms on a small scale.

Señor Jarpa, visiting Buenos Aires, expressed "profound consternation" at the killing, but said it would not interfere with the process of gradual political liberalization.

He described the assassination as "an isolated case", which did not justify reimposing the state of emergency.

The killing was described by the Government as the work of extremist terrorist elements.

## Micro boom's first victim

By Clive Cookson

Technology Correspondent

Britain's home computer boom has claimed its first corporate victim.

Grundy Business Systems, manufacturer of the NewBrain microcomputer designed originally by Sir Clive Sinclair, is to go into liquidation. Sales success last year tempted the company, which is 30 per cent state owned, to expand too fast.

"Severe cash flow problems" forced the board to recommend winding up Grundy Business Systems, Mr Anthony Wheeler, finance director, said. A creditors' meeting has been called for next week to appoint a liquidator.

NewBrain has perhaps the most chequered history of all British micros. It originated in the late 1970s as a research project in Sir Clive's former company, Sinclair Radionics.

When he left Radionics in 1979 to start his present firm, Sinclair Research, the project was transferred to Newbury Laboratories, a subsidiary of the National Enterprise Board.

The computer just missed being chosen as the BBC Micro in 1981. The BBC selected NewBrain unofficially as the machine it wanted to adopt for its tuition series on home computing, but at about the same time Newbury Laboratories decided to concentrate on manufacturing peripherals (printers and disc drives) and it sold NewBrain to Grundy.

During that period of uncertainty the BBC gave the contract instead to Acorn Computers, for whom the BBC Micro has proved a great success.

Grundy Business Systems, a company owned 70 per cent by the private Grundy Group and 30 per cent by the government's British Technology Group, finally launched NewBrain in May, 1982, with a price tag of £199 and "the confident claim of being the most powerful hand-held microcomputer in the world."

NewBrain was an immediate success, with demand running ahead of supply, and by January this year it had become one of Britain's most popular micros, selling up to 5,000 a month.

On the basis of that success Grundy made what turned out to be the fatal mistake of expanding production rapidly to meet an anticipated NewBrain boom this year.

Sales declined and the slump was made worse by the company's delay in delivering a promised disc system that would have given NewBrain users access to far more software.

Mr Wheeler remained optimistic last night that the company could still find a buyer. "On the basis of the product I think we have a very good chance," he said. "But time is running out. Someone would have to be found within the next two to three weeks."

NewBrain was assembled under contract by Thorn-EMI at its DataTech factory, Feltham, west London. Grundy Business Systems directly employs only about 30 people at its two bases in Cambridge and Teddington. Most of them will be laid off today.

## UN chief in London for Falklands talks

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, arrived in London yesterday and will have talks with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, on the future of the Falkland Islands when they meet today for the first time.

However, Señor Pérez de Cuellar is unlikely to get any change out of Sir Geoffrey before next month's debate at the UN General Assembly in New York.

The Secretary General has been mandated by the General Assembly to help to find a solution to the issue of sovereignty. Argentina is eager for him to intervene, according to UN sources, and he is now exploring the British position.

The Foreign Office reacted coolly to Argentina's call for a resumption of talks earlier this month and is likely to make a similar response today, pointing out that no negotiations can be contemplated at least until Argentina announces a formal end to hostilities.

Officials expect no more than an exchange of views rather than an initiative from either side. The meeting is at the suggestion of Sir Geoffrey who is anxious to hear details of the Secretary General's five-day visit to southern Africa from which he has just returned. During the visit he tried to find ways towards a settlement on the long-running dispute over Namibia.

## Closure threat to six colleges

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Six colleges are threatened with closure in cuts recommended yesterday by a Government advisory body, but their names are to remain secret unless the colleges declare their involvement.

The plan for polytechnics and colleges, which are funded by local councils, has been drawn up over the past 11 months by officers of the National Advisory Body (NAB) for local authority higher education. It is the first time that such an exercise has been conducted, and it is seen as an attempt to do in the public sector what was done two years ago in the universities.

It reveals shift from the humanities, which are to receive less money and fewer students in 1984, towards mathematics and science courses. London and the south east are penalized in favour of the rest of the country.

Officers have also recommended a movement from degree to sub-degree courses, and have signalled a build-up in part-time students - up by 4,000 full-time equivalents - next year.

Details of the plan, and about how each polytechnic and college would face assuming a 10 per cent in funding, were received by more than 200 institutions yesterday. An extra letter was sent to the "some half-dozen or so" colleges which Mr Christopher Ball, chairman of NAB's board and warden of Keele College, Oxford, said were in jeopardy.

Comments have to be received by September 19. The plan goes to the NAB board in October and

the NAB committee in November before being submitted to the Secretary of state for education.

The officers say they took into account such factors as whether a subject was needed, regional demands, quality and cost-effectiveness.

The Inner London Education Authority said strenuous representations would be made because it did not accept any of the NAB's calculations.

Mr Neil Stewart, president of the National Union of Students, said the NUS would, if necessary, challenge in court the Council for Academic Awards' power to validate courses in colleges as being of the same standard as those in universities in the light of the proposed cuts.

## Threat to blow up hijacked jet over Iraq

Tehran (AFP, Reuters) - The hijackers of an Air France Boeing 737 grounded at Tehran Airport announced last night that they planned to take off and blow the aircraft up over Iraq, Iranian television said. It gave no further details.

Earlier, Iran granted the four Arabo-speaking gunmen permission to leave, the national news agency said quoting a Foreign Ministry source.

The crew and 17 passengers - including one Briton, Mr Martin Lees who works for the United Nations Development Programme - were said to be in good condition.

There's only one decaffeinated coffee that tastes as good as Gold Blend.









## Wine chain's own-brand cigarette sales may start price war

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Victoria Wine, part of Allied Lyons and the country's biggest off-licence chain, is to test market packs of 20 cigarettes under its own label at 85p per pack. The pack will be white with green and gold lettering. Text marketing will be carried out at 24 outlets and could start a fierce cigarette price cutting war.

At 85p the cigarettes will be 4p cheaper than the discounted price on the cheapest branded cigarettes on the company's shelves. It compares with king size packs that retail in some outlets at £1.8 or more.

Mr Fursa Hogan, managing director of the Manchester Tobacco Company, one of Britain's few small manufacturers which is supplying Victoria Wine with the Virginia cigarettes, said several of the big grocery multiple chains had inquired about possible own-label supplies.

Victoria Wine would be likely to bring the cut-price range into all 900 outlets, if the supermarkets also took up their own label supplies the big British manufacturers could face the price pressures experienced by manufacturers in West Germany in the past few years.

In West Germany, "no-name" cigarettes - produced for grocery chains - have taken about 40 per cent of the market through supermarkets. That has forced the German manufacturers to cut prices to compete.

Cut-price no-name cigarettes - sold in plain generic rather than own-label packs - have also obtained a big market share in the United States.

Hinton in the North east which has 53 supermarkets and

27 off-licences, has already introduced its own house label cigarettes.

Its Wineschaden brand, also produced by the Manchester Tobacco Company, is selling at 94p for 20. The cigarettes were launched two months ago and are said by Hinton to be selling well, with the prospect of taking 10 to 15 per cent of its cigarette sales.

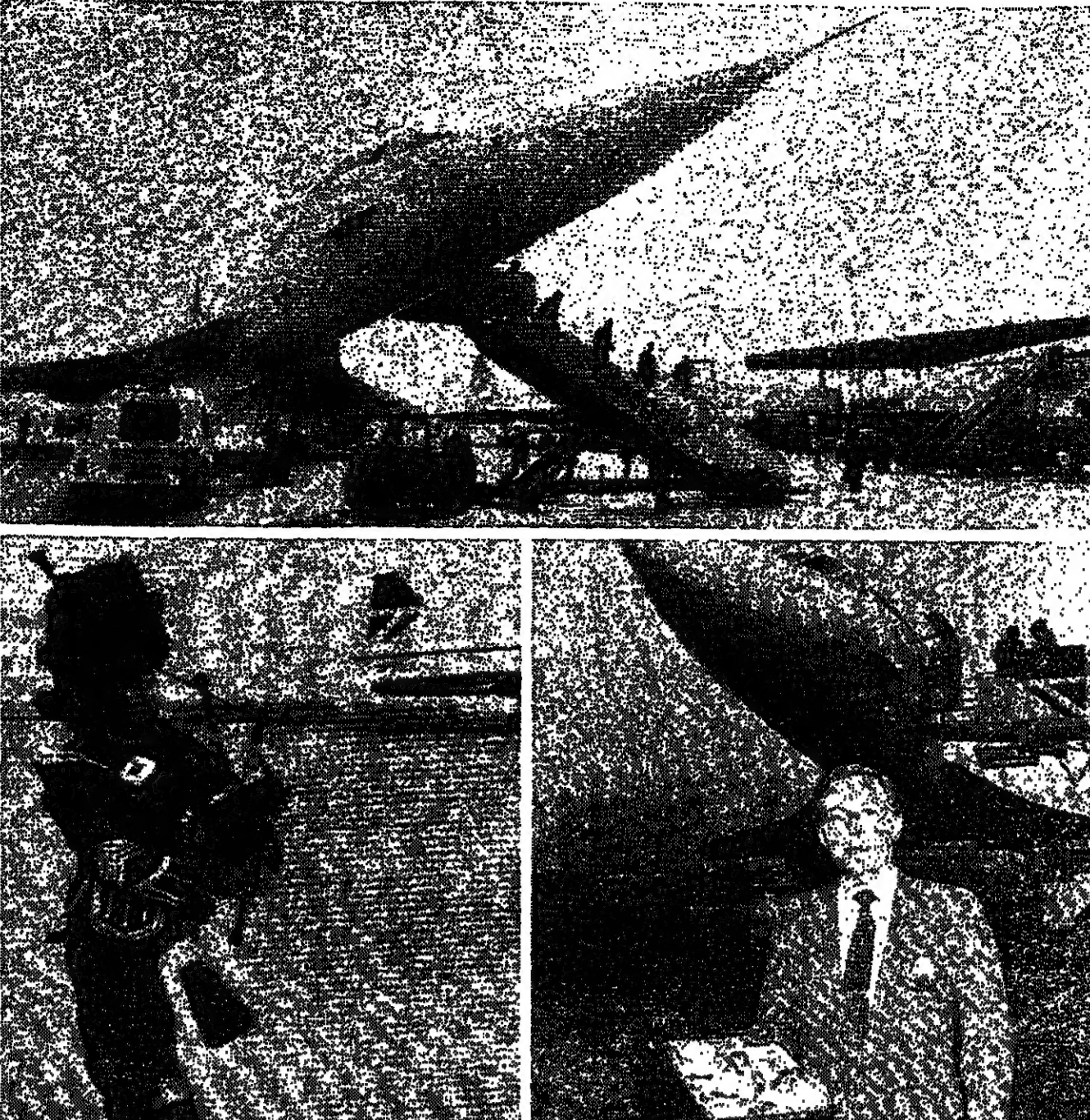
Victoria Wine expects its own-label sales to go higher than that.

Mr Eric Colwell, managing director, said: "Reactions have already been favourable even though it is early days yet. After a lot of research we believe that own-label and national brands can run happily alongside each other as they do for instance in the whisky and gin markets."

Imperial Tobacco, with its John Player and Embassy brands, and Gallahue and Benson and Hedges, are locked in a price war, with many brands being offered at reduced "promotional" prices.

Increased duty reduced consumption by five to six per cent earlier this year but sales have improved recently.

## Bagpipes, breakfast and ballyhoo



Super shuttle: British Airways Concordes at Glasgow airport yesterday where they were piped in after landing. Mr Colin Marshall (bottom right) BA's chief executive, at Heathrow airport with the new, free breakfast for passengers on shuttle flights.

## BA 'will not make price cut'

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

There will be no fare cuts on British Airways domestic shuttle to beat off competition from British Midland Airways.

That was made clear yesterday by Mr Colin Marshall, BA's chief executive, on a day in which the state airline spent about £33,000 on flying nearly 600 passengers, paying over £50 a head, from London to Glasgow and back by Concorde to mark the opening of a new improved "super shuttle".

BA is spending around £4m a year to provide a full English breakfast, free drinks, reserved seats, to launch the traffic loss that within a year of competition from British Midland has cost it 33 per cent of the Glasgow market and 31 per cent to Edinburgh.

But while British Midland announced yet another challenge to BA yesterday this time on the London to Aberdeen route, Mr Marshall said that there would be no price war on shuttle routes despite British Midland's current price advantage. BA's single fare to Glasgow is £58, compared with British Midland's £52.50. "We are the market leader and it would not be wise for us to bring fares down unless we want to get into a price war", Mr Marshall said. Nor was BA trying to drive British Midland out of business.

The Concorde trips failed to draw the crowds predicted the day before. The first left Heathrow at 7.15am with all 100 seats taken, but the second at 7.50am carried only 67 passengers. The third, shortly after, was full.

Most passengers were clearly thrilled at the ballyhoo opportunity of flying on the aircraft but many took it to their stride. "I could not care less about Concorde, I just want to get to Glasgow on time", one businessman at Heathrow said.

## Chay Blyth in new challenge

Chay Blyth, the round-the-world yachtsman, announced yesterday that he had set himself a fresh, and maybe final, sailing challenge to beat the clipper ship record for the 14,500-mile voyage round Cape Horn.

Mr Blyth, aged 43, will sail from New York in November to try to beat the record set by the American cutter Flying Cloud 132 years ago. He hopes to arrive in San Francisco sooner than the 89 days and 21 hours the cutter took in 1851.

He said yesterday: "For me this is a great adventure." British forces based on the Falkland Islands have agreed to rendezvous with him as he sails through the South Atlantic to take off his letters and film.

## Woman's body among toys

The body of Mrs Thelma Mary Bain, aged 63, of 13 Ladbroke Avenue, Fallowfield, London, was discovered on the floor in her bedroom hidden by toys seven days after she was reported missing, the Hammersmith coroner, was told yesterday.

The inquest was told she had taken poison. A verdict was recorded that she had taken her life because of severe depression.

## Blazing tyres inquest date

An inquest into the death of a man who was severely burnt when a sculpture of a submarine made from car tyres was destroyed by fire, was adjourned at Battersea, south London, yesterday until September 13.

Mr James Gore-Graham, aged 35, a furniture designer, of Coler Gardens, west Kensington, died after the blaze on the South Bank.

## Body in freezer

Mrs Ethel Russell, aged 72, was found dead in an old disconnected freezer at a Devon farm yesterday. Police said that a post-mortem examination would be carried out on Mrs Russell, of Higher Easterbrook, Burescombe, but there were no suspicious circumstances.

## Aircraft charge

Henri Rothlisberger, aged 72, from Lille, has been accused in the Irish Republic of attempting to damage an Air France aircraft from Paris to Montreal. He will appear in court at Shannon on Friday.

## Police car stolen

Joy riders drove away a police car while the policemen were questioning youths in another car on the M6 in north Staffordshire on Monday. The police car was found abandoned later.

## Dancing feat

Ann Marie Whittaker, aged 19, from Histon, Cambridgeshire, broke into a 60ft wing span disco dancing non-stop for 386 hours, more than 16 days, at Penzance.

## Pigeons killed

Vandals have strangled or beheaded 24 prize-winning racing pigeons worth a total of £720 after breaking into a loft in Linby Walk, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire.

## Glider stolen

Police have asked people to look out for a glider worth £11,000 with a 60ft wing span stolen from a club airfield at Crowland, Lincolnshire.

## Civic Rolls to go

Nottingham City Council is to sell its two civic Rolls-Royces and replace them with two Ford cars to cut costs.

## Drug police seize Baudelaire book

By Stewart Toulner, Crime Reporter

A work by Baudelaire, first published 133 years ago, has been seized by police in search of material linked to illicit drug use. Other works taken during raids on bookshops include three by Aldous Huxley and one by William Burroughs, the American writer.

The books have been seized in 26 raids over the past 18 months in small, independent or "alternative" bookshops. The police have acted under the Obscene Publications Act, mainly taking imported books on cannabis, cocaine and hallucinogenic mushrooms, covering use and cultivation.

But a list compiled by the Publishers' Association shows police have also taken Baudelaire's *Hashish*, *Wine and Opium* published in 1860; *The Doors of Perception*, *Moksha* and *The Island* by Huxley; *Junkie* by Burroughs; and several books by Hunter S. Thompson, the American writer and journalist, including his history of the Hell's Angels.

Earlier this month, members of the association met to consider the police action. They decided to see whether the police would keep the books or bring prosecutions before taking action themselves.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the association said the meeting had considered representations to Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney

General, but it was decided "to hold one's horses until we see whether the books are going to be prosecuted".

The spokesman said the use of the Obscene Publications Act was felt to be "slightly curious". The seized titles published by the association's members were in many cases classics.

The raids were in London, Birmingham, Leeds, Bristol, Reading and Manchester. Several prosecutions are under way but do not involve any of the titles produced by members of the association, who have been working in cooperation with the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse.

Mr David Turner, national coordinator of the standing conference, yesterday echoed the association's concern about the use of the Obscene Publications Act. He said that there had not been a prosecution under the act against a book on drugs since 1964 when Alex Trovati's *Cocaine* was successfully taken to court.

Mr Turner said that the raids seemed to be part of a policy which could have emanated from the Director of Public Prosecutions.

A spokesman for the DPP said: "I would not go so far as to say there is a policy. If material is seized, then it is this department which considers it."

## Missing wife seen alive, anonymous caller says

Police searching for Mrs Diane Jones, the missing wife of an Essex village doctor, received an anonymous telephone call yesterday claiming that she is in the Bury St Edmunds area of Suffolk.

The caller, a woman who said she was a close friend of Mrs Jones, rang off before police had a chance to question her.

She said she had seen Mrs Jones alive and well in the past 48 hours. Police in Bury St Edmunds are being contacted.

Det. Supt. Michael Ainsley, leading the hunt for Mrs Jones, said: "We are taking this call seriously. The woman was calm and her information sounded plausible. We are appealing to her to contact us again and we want

to hear from anyone who can identify her."

Mr Ainsley said a handbag recovered by police, which newspapers reported yesterday as being a breakthrough in the investigation, had been in police possession since August 2.

Meanwhile police divers were searching flooded sandpits at Ardleigh, near Colchester, after the reported sighting of a car in the area.

Mrs Jones, aged 35, disappeared five weeks ago.

Her husband, Dr Robert Jones, aged 40, left for a holiday in Canada at the weekend after putting his farmhouse in Coggeshall, Essex, up for sale at £95,000.

## State cash goes to pop group

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

The four members of a pop music group from Solihull, West Midlands are to receive about £40 a week each for a year under the Government's enterprise allowance scheme.

The scheme encourages small businesses under the auspices of the Manpower Services Commission. It is thought to be the first time that musicians have been aided.

The Department of Employment said: "We agree they are in a fringe area, but they conformed to the guidelines. They had all been out of work for over 13 weeks and were prepared to put £1,000 into the venture. We do not know if they had to give an audition after they had applied."

The Government has allocated £54m for the first year of the scheme, which started on a national basis this month. There are to be 25,000 places, and so far there have been 147 approved cases in the Midlands, including the pop group.

The members of the band, called "Eye Do It", are David Brown, Paul Florence and Martin Hope, all aged 21, and Sarah Winsper, aged 19, the vocalist.

Mr Brown, a guitarist, said: "We are expecting to bring out our first single record next month and we have also set up our own recording company called REM."

"The idea came to me when I heard someone discussing the scheme in a public house. I thought there was no reason why an aspiring pop group could not get help in numbers and decorations to do so."

## Two more staff quit Dartington

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

Two more senior members of staff have resigned from Dartington Hall, the independent progressive school, whose headmaster announced a clean-up campaign after allegations of crime and vice among pupils.

Mr John Clench-Bunting and his wife, Angela, house parents, who have been at the school in Totnes, Devon, for four years, leave later this week. They are refusing to say why.

Their departure comes after that of two senior teachers, Mr David Gribble and Mrs Maggie Girard, who have also refused to give their reasons.

Dartington Hall's headmaster, Mr Lyn Blackshaw, aged 44, wrote last week to the parents of the 300 mixed pupils, who pay nearly £6,000 a year to educate their children.

In it he catalogued problems at the school, including under-age sex, drug and alcohol abuse and a spate of burglaries and vandalism.

On Monday, a former pupil-governor, Miss Emma Felt, aged 18, who left in July, said: "The school is by no means perfect, but it is special because it cares for people who have had a difficult time. Mr Blackshaw was ignoring that and saying he could not cope with people with social problems."

"There has to be a change but there are ways to go about it."

The chairman of Dartington parish council, Mrs Sybil Newman, herself a former pupil, said: "A new broom always sweeps clean but he is trying to bring in his own broom."

Mr and Mrs Clench-Bunting were unavailable for comment last night.

## Timber frame homes defended

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

There is no evidence to suggest that timber frame built homes are inferior to more traditional houses, the National House-building Council says in a report published yesterday.

The council, which provides a 10-year guarantee scheme for new homes, says it has introduced design and safety guidelines which make British timber frame homes the best in the world.

Since the mid-1960s there have only been 24 claims against timber frame construction methods. That compares with a total of 20,000 accepted claims by the council on nearly 2.5 million houses constructed under the guarantee scheme, of which 150,000 used the timber frame method.

Doubts about the durability and construction standards of timber frame houses have been raised in recent months after a television documentary and subsequent press comments. But there is little to suggest, the council says, that timber frame homes are constructed to lower standards than more conventional houses.

The council says timber frame homes are constructed to a higher design specification than anywhere else in the world. In many countries there are far more timber frame houses built than those of brick construction.

Scotland has led the nation in timber frame construction. As long ago as 1965 houses built along those lines accounted for

about 20 per cent of new homes. Today as many as 40 per cent of private housing in Scotland are of timber frame construction.

In the rest of the UK it is estimated that a quarter of new private homes are of timber frame construction.

Leading building societies such as the Abbey National and the Anglia have defended the use of timber frame methods in new housebuilding, saying that there is nothing intrinsically wrong with the technique.

Two of the main criticisms levelled at timber frame concern rotting of the support timbers from either a high degree of condensation or water penetration. The council denies that either is a real danger.

## Cash flood for disabled yachtsman

By Craig Seton

The public responded yesterday to the lone voyage of the disabled yachtsman, Mr Mike Spring with hundreds of cash donations towards a £750,000 appeal by the Pain Relief Foundation to establish a research institute.

Mr Spring, aged 39, who is paralysed from the waist down, sailed to the Azores and back in his 21ft-long yacht 3M Mariner, but on his return to Penzance on Monday it was learnt that his effort had raised less than a quarter of the expected £20,000.

Lord Northesk, chairman of the appeal committee of the Pain Relief Foundation, of which Mr Spring is a patient, asked the public to make the voyage financially worthwhile while yesterday offers of cash help started to pour in.

Mr Spring is a computer programmer working from home for the 3M company, which gave £1,500 to the appeal. The company will welcome him home today at a ceremony in its Bracknell headquarters and Mr Robert Colley, chairman and managing director, intends to pledge another pound for every mile of Mr Spring's return journey to Britain - estimated to be over 1,300 miles.

Mr Spring spent the day in Falmouth, Cornwall, his original destination. People applauded him in the streets and pressed money into his hands. Donations included £10 notes.

Mr Spring, who broke his back in a road accident 14 years ago, was presented with the Falmouth coat of arms at a civic ceremony and civic leaders appealed for more cash donations to mark his voyage.

Donations can be made to the Pain Relief Foundation, Freeport, Liverpool, or through any branch of the National Westminster Bank, quoting account No 98001914 - bank code No 60-22-24.

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## Rival companies stake cable TV claims

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

The Home Office will receive applications today for the first cable television franchises to be awarded in Britain. By November a dozen franchises will have been given approval and by next year the multi-channel network should be in operation.

Dozens of consortia have declared their interest in providing cable television services, although not all are likely to apply for franchises today but will wait until a second batch are awarded in about a year.

The new Cable Television Authority, to be created by the Government through legislation in the next Parliament, will be the prime supervisor of the cable networks and will be responsible in the long term for awarding

franchises and ensuring that the programmes transmitted conform to public taste and decency. In the meantime that function will be performed by the Home Office, the Department of Trade and Industry and a panel of consultants.

The franchise applications are unique in that each one defines its own network area, unlike those of local radio or television which have areas outlined by the Independent Broadcasting Authority. The Government has then to decide in the next few months which areas will be selected as the "guinea-pigs" for multi-channel cable television.

There is still a great deal of uncertainty about the criteria to be used in making the selection.

## PROGRAMME PRODUCERS

**FILM**  
1. Consortium of Goldencrest Films and Television (financial backers of *Chariot of Fire*, *Ghandi* and *Local Hero*). Columbia Pictures, CBS, Home Box Office (a film channel in the US) and 20th Century-Fox.

2. Rediffusion, Visionaire, Rank Trident Satellite and Cable, Plessey and the American UTP grey television company, which is itself a joint venture between three leading film studios, Paramount, Universal and MGM/UA Entertainment.

**MUSIC**  
1. Thorn-EMI.  
2. Cable Music, a consortium led by Virgin Records.  
3. Musicvision, led by Yorkshire Television.

**CHILDREN'S AND EDUCATIONAL**  
1. Thorn-EMI.  
2. Wyvern Television, a new television company, also applying for a franchise in both Reading and Leicester.

**SPORT**  
1. Satellite Television.  
2. Screen Sports.  
3. Cable Sports and Leisure.  
4. West Nelly.

**NEWS**  
1. News International/Television.  
2. Gold.  
3. Cable News and Leisure.

**VIDEO GAMES AND HOME COMPUTER SOFTWARE**  
1. W. H. Smith.  
2. Thorn-EMI.

**ARTS**  
British Cable Programmes.

## POSSIBLE FRANCHISE AREAS AND CONSORTIA

**Both and Reading:** Wyvern Television, company intends also to make educational programmes. **Brighton, Hove, Worthing and Bognor Regis:** Communicable. **Bristol:** Rediffusion; **Stockbrokers:** Stock Beach. **Covey:** Thorn-EMI with local radio station Merca. **East Anglia:** Eastern Cable Television for Norwich; Cable Systems Development Company for Ipswich. **Leeds and Bradford:** Consortium involving Virgin Records. **Lancashire:** Cable North-West. **Leicester:** Thorn-EMI, Rediffusion, Granada Television. **London:** Central London Cable (Camden and Hampstead); Croydon Cable Television Company (Croydon) headed by Mr Jack Gill, Longman (Harrow and Brent). **Manchester:** Granada Television. **Manchester:** Cablevision, including Rothchild, Fernant, The Grand-

**Northwest Television.** **Portsmouth and Southampton:** Solent Cablevision. **Scotland:** Capital City Cablevision (Edinburgh) - consortium with Radio Forth, the Royal Bank of Scotland, Johnston Newspapers and Thorn-EMI; Cablevision Scotland (Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee) - consortium with Granada Television. **Television:** D. C. Thompson and British Lion. **Thorn-EMI:** Cablevision Scotland (Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee) - consortium with Granada Television. **Wales:** Cablevision (Ayr, Prestwick, Troon, Kilmarnock and Irvine) - consortium with Honeywell, Royal Bank of Scotland and Scottish Television. **South Yorkshire:** General Network (Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham) consortium includes University of Sheffield. **Tyne and Wear:** See consortia at Camden and Hampstead, Leeds and Bradford and Brighton. **Wales:** See consortia at Wrexham and Bangor. **Windsor:** Lord De La Warr. Existing cable systems owned by the cable companies which operate franchises among newborn pups is suggested in the latest issue of *The Veterinary Record*.

Mr A. S. Blunden, of the Animal Health Trust, near Newmarket, Suffolk, describes his investigations into "fading puppy complex" which is estimated to account for more than half of canine deaths within five days of birth.

A collaborative study with Professor J. Davies of the paediatric department at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, showed that the dead pups exhibited the same changes in lung surfactant composition as were found in cot death victims.

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## BBC names presenters of early evening show

The BBC yesterday named her new role was "a great challenge".

Sally Magnusson, who is 27, joins the programme from BBC Scotland, where she was a reporter for *Current Account*.

She said her Scottish interest would emphasize the importance which *60 Minutes* would put on its regional content.

Nick Ross, aged 35, who moves from *Breakfast Time* said: "It is an irresistible challenge to be involved with another programme launch."

Desmond Wilcox, aged 52, joined the BBC in 1965 and launched the award-winning documentary series *Man alive*.

## Pup theory in cot deaths

By John Young

Its symptoms include plaintive and persistent crying, restlessness, inability to feed and acute loss of weight.

A collaborative study with Professor J. Davies of the paediatric department at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, showed that the dead pups exhibited the same changes in lung surfactant composition as were found in cot death victims.

## Councils get time over rent cash

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Local authorities have been given new deadlines for implementing the new housing benefit scheme because of widespread difficulties. That have left thousands of private tenants without rent money.

But Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, denied in a statement on the new scheme yesterday that the difficulties were as bad as reported by his critics. His statement, the first from a minister to set out in detail the case for the new scheme, is intended to take the edge off some of the protests anticipated when MPs return to the Commons at the end of the summer recess.

The scheme transfers to local authorities responsibility for paying out help with housing costs from the Department of Health and Social Security and was intended to be fully implemented by April. But at the end of July, the department acknowledged that 100 local authorities had not completed the transition.

The position is believed to have improved since then, but local authorities have been given until September to introduce the change for existing cases, and until December for those taken over from the DHSS.

Mr Boyson's statement said that 95 per cent of people receiving supplementary benefits had been moved on to the new scheme by the end of July, but delays in some cases had led to some people falling behind with their rent and rates.

He acknowledged that private tenants were more vulnerable than council tenants and urged local authorities to give priority to their claims.



## Ferment on the subcontinent

# Unions muted but lawyers add their weight to anti-Zia protest

From Michael Hamlyn, Karachi

A 28-year-old woman wearing a blue outfit and a ring in her nose stood outside the Sessions Court in Karachi yesterday lunchtime yelling anti-government slogans.

"No talks with Zia", she shouted. "When the Army is in politics the country is in disgrace. To call Zia a dog is to insult a dog. Zia is a blackmailer, Zia is a robber, Zia is a usurper."

She was led away by a group of women police and sat in the front seat of a police van as it roared her off to prison. Gulzar Begum, mother of two small boys was not the first woman to be arrested in the present campaign against the military regime in Pakistan, nor is she the first trade union leader to be imprisoned.

Examples of both have been hard to come by, and she is certainly the first to combine both attributes in one detainee.

She is president of a progressive union at the Pakistan Steel Mills. She is also a symbol of what the campaign needs if it is to maintain sufficient momentum to make any important change to the plans of the Government for a gradual return to an elected democracy on a constitutionally revised constitution.

It is now 16 days since the civil disobedience campaign was launched by a coalition of eight outlawed political parties, but the Government has not budged. That there is a good deal of deeply hostile feeling towards the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq has been amply demonstrated, but over most of the country the expressions of that discontent have been either purely symbolic or easily contained by the authorities.

Even in Karachi where the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) held its first big demonstration on Independence Day on August 14, the crowds watching political figures courting arrest have been dwindling, and the reaction to the arrests has been low key.

If the movement could encourage more people like Gulzar Begum, if the trade unions could be persuaded to step off the sidelines into the mainstream of the movement, it would provide a much needed nudge to the decelerating handwagon.

An effort in this direction will be made on Saturday when lawyers from bar associations around the country will meet to plan their future action. Lawyers in Lahore yesterday undertook a procession of protest on that day, with each lawyer in his black

cotton coat carrying a copy of the 1973 Constitution.

The biggest outbreaks of unrest have been largely confined to the rural interior of Sindh province, where violence is as much a part of politics as of any other human activity.

"When a man gets a large sum of money in these parts he does one of three things," a government official from the northern part of the province said. "He goes to Karachi and buys a video, or gets married - and they get married many times - or he pays to have someone killed. After a good harvest here the murder rate sometimes goes up to about 10 a day."

With such violent attitudes it has come as no surprise that the political protest in Sindh has produced a good deal of mayhem. But even there the protesters are beginning to feel that the rest of the country is letting them down. If that feeling grows it will inevitably lead to calls for Sindh Deth - an independent Sindh.

The convener for the MRD in the northern country town of Lakarua, Mr Ahmed Ali Saave, a lawyer aged 24, said: "If the Punjabis will not go against Zia we Sindhis will do our own politics. There will be no more Pakistan politics."

## Bombs greet Gandhi's son in Assam

Delhi (Reuters) - Two bombs exploded in Assam when Mr Rajiv Gandhi, aged 39, the politician son of Mr Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, made a quick visit to the troubled north-east Indian state yesterday.

Shops and offices in the capital, Gauhati, and some other parts of the Brahmaputra Valley state were closed for the second day as part of a 36-hour strike called by anti-immigrant hardliners to coincide with Mr Gandhi's trip.

The two explosions, one on Monday night and the other yesterday morning, raised the total across the state to five since Sunday.

The bombs and strike appeared to be the first serious anti-Government action since widespread violence last February and

March when 3,000 people were killed and more than 300,000 were made homeless.

The Press Trust of India said that only one person was injured in the latest attacks and there were no reports of any group claiming responsibility.

The agency said the first bomb exploded at a state transport corporation workshop in Nowgong, 60 miles east of Gauhati, injuring the night watchman. The other was also in the Nowgong district at a station.

The news agency gave no details of damage but a bomb on Monday damaged a stretch of railway track in the same district and it appeared the attackers were going for transport systems.

Mr Hiteswar Saikia, the Chief Minister of Assam, has said he

believes the bombers are linked to extremist groups in neighbouring north-east Indian states who have hideouts across the border in Burma.

The agency said Mr Gandhi, who is one of five secretary-generals of the Congress (I) Party, which rules India, received a rousing reception at Gauhati airport.

He later flew by helicopter to Borbori in Nowgong district, which was one of the worst affected areas during the February massacres when whole villages were wiped out.

Mr Gandhi, who many politicians believe is being groomed by his mother as her heir apparent, was later due to address a meeting of the Congress Party's youth wing in Gauhati.

## August talks a measure of crisis



Before the battle: Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, confers with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, before the EEC meeting in Brussels.

## Britain finds surprise ally in EEC budget battle

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The largest ever meeting of EEC ministers yesterday sat round an overcrowded table in Brussels to wrestle with the largest problem ever to face the Community - how to prevent it from going bankrupt.

It was a warning-up session in what threatens to be the toughest series of negotiations since the EEC was created. Central to the discussion was how much of the cost of running the Community should be borne by Britain.

Little was expected from the meeting, but the mere fact that 35 ministers from 10 countries were prepared to travel to Brussels in August was an important sign that every member is prepared to work towards a successful conclusion before the next European summit in Athens in December.

The three British ministers present, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, and Mr Michael Jopling, the Agriculture minister, all pressed Britain's case for strict control of farm spending, which is eating up two-thirds of the total budget.

Mr Lawson set out Britain's view that there had to be a restrictive price policy for agricultural products which would act as a brake on production. He proposed that farm spending should not be allowed to grow each year by more than an agreed fraction.

It was an idea to which only the Dutch gave full-hearted support although West Germany also showed that it was seeking a way of holding back agricultural spending.

The most unexpected and significant contribution came from Denmark, which has until now been almost isolated in refusing to accept that change is necessary. It put forward a paper agreeing that the British problem had to be solved and suggesting the creation of a special fund.

It was not an idea which Britain could endorse outright, but the fact that the most implacable opponent to EEC change was now prepared to put forward ideas for change showed how conscious every country had become of the need to negotiate a settlement.

## S African law limiting black students shelved

Cape Town (AFP) - South Africa yesterday postponed plans to limit the number of blacks entering universities mainly reserved for whites.

A law requiring black students to seek ministerial permission for enrolment in a white university was passed by Parliament last June in the face of strong opposition from rectors of English-speaking faculties, the opposition Progressive Federal Party and anti-apartheid bodies.

Education Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen said yesterday that despite the decision to postpone applying the new law, black students in Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Ophthalmology, Pharmacy, para-medical subjects and Agriculture would continue to be assigned primarily to the universities in the black "homelands".

Dr Viljoen justifies this measure by recalling the large investment which he said had been made in teaching these subjects in the black colleges.

The Education Minister said that entry qualifications to English-speaking universities would bar the same proportion of blacks, Coloured (mixed-race) and Asians as government-imposed quotas.

The Afrikaans universities had promised to take only between 100 and 400 non-white students in the coming academic year.

## Infection risk to Chad troops

Ndjamena (AP) - The survival rate among soldiers with abdominal injuries sustained in the civil war in Chad is "absolute zero," according to Lieutenant Commander René Jancovici, a French Navy doctor who is the only trained surgeon practising in the Chad capital.

Those seriously injured in the battle for the northern outpost of Faya-Largeau were flown to the hospital in Ndjamena, a near-desertic group of buildings in the heart of the war-shattered city.

"They lay in the 50°C (122°F) heat for up to five days without any kind of first aid before being evacuated," Commander Jancovici said. "I received 223 seriously hurt soldiers with all kinds of head, chest and limb injuries."

"But there was not a single abdominal injury among them, because anyone unfortunate enough to be struck in the abdomen in that heat and filth and without medical attention was dead within hours."

The hospital itself is not a model of hygiene, either. All the toilets are smashed and unusable, and flies and malaria-bearing mosquitoes hover over rubbish and excrement in the yard.

There are not enough beds for the hundreds of patients - civilians as well as soldiers.

Many of the military casualties from Faya-Largeau had injuries caused by pellet fragmentation and phosphorous bombs dropped in the divebombing attacks of the Libyan Air Force, Commander Jancovici said.

The injuries of every battle casualty brought to the hospital were badly infected, he said. "Four of them had amputations which they had performed on themselves - for example, of gangrenous open fractures - without anaesthetics, instruments or help of any kind."

Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy to Central America, is due to return to the Colombian capital, Bogotá, after an abortive 24-hour stay here in which he failed to hold a substantive meeting with Salvadoran revolutionary leaders.

A spokeswoman for the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) the political wing of the Salvadoran guerrilla military organization, the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), said that they were still trying to arrange a meeting.

The US envoy and the FDR-FMLN delegation, which is headed by Dr Guillermo Ungo, president of the FDR, held separate meetings on Monday night with President Alberto Monge of Costa Rica, who has been trying to mediate.

Mr Stone had arrived here late on Monday from El Salvador, refusing to state whether he planned negotiations with the Salvadoran left. At least three top FDR-FMLN leaders are reported to have gathered secretly

## War flares again in Lebanon



Hands up: A Lebanese soldier being seized at gunpoint by a left-wing guerrilla during Beirut fighting in which 15 soldiers and two American Marines were killed on Monday.

## Congress concerned at status of American Marines

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

In the wake of the killing of two US Marines in Beirut, the Reagan Administration is coming under congressional pressure to change the terms under which 1,200 troops are in Lebanon as part of the multi-national peace-keeping force.

Although senator Barry Goldwater (Republican, Arizona) has been the only prominent member of Congress to call for the Marines to be withdrawn, several others have urged the Administration to invoke the 1973 war powers act, which would theoretically provide Congress with a veto over their continued deployment.

The Act was introduced after the Vietnam war and is intended to check the President's power to deploy American troops in hostile situations abroad.

If the situation is deemed sufficiently serious for the Act to be invoked, the troops could be withdrawn within 60 to 90 days unless Congress passed special authorization for them to remain.

On Monday a special crisis management group, chaired by vice-president George Bush, ordered a legal review of the Act but set no date for completion of the review. In the meantime the Administration has made it clear there would be no immediate change in the status of US participation in the four-nation force. The Marines were "an

essential ingredient" in US policy in Lebanon.

American officials contend that the attack appears to have been an isolated incident and was not specifically directed at American positions. If this can be proved, the Act need not be invoked.

But if it is shown that the Marines are in a situation "where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances" then the President is obliged to report to Congress.

A recent Supreme Court ruling has put a question mark over whether the President is still subject to a veto by Congress under the War Powers Act.

Senator John Glenn (Democrat, Ohio) a member of the Senate foreign relations committee and representative Clement Zablocki (Democrat, Wisconsin), chairman of the House foreign affairs committee have both said the deaths of the Marines has changed the situation and that the President should now report to Congress.

However Mr Glenn, who is seeking the Democratic nomination for next year's presidential race, favoured keeping the Marines in Lebanon, a view which seems to have wide bipartisan support.

The Marines, who are mainly deployed round Beirut airport, are backed by reserve of 600 stationed in American warships



Cares of office: A worried President Reagan telephones Washington from his California ranch to seek more information about the deaths of the two American Marines.

off the Lebanese coast. These reserves have not been called up to support the land-based force which includes British, French and Italian troops.

The Administration has indirectly blamed Syria for Monday's attack which was

carried out by Shia militiamen. A senior official accompanying President Reagan on his holiday in California claimed the incident was an outgrowth of Syria's refusal to withdraw its forces from Lebanon and Syrian influence on left-wing Muslim factions there.

## Superpower role sought in forum on Palestine

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

A UN-organized international conference to seek a just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict was suggested yesterday by Mr Faruk Kaddumi, director of the Palestine Liberation Organization's political department. Both superpowers should take part, he said.

He told the UN conference on the Question of Palestine in Geneva that as a means of inducing Israel to agree, the UN should adopt measures for bringing pressure, including sanctions. The PLO refused to believe there was no hope for a political solution based on the efforts of the international community.

The present situation was potentially a greater tragedy for the Jews than for the Palestinians, the former becoming identified with an arrogant policy of aggression. The popular progressive movement within Israel indicated growing awareness of this. Even in Zionist institutions, individuals were critical of what the Begin Government had done.

The Palestinians totally rejected the Reagan plan. "How can they ask us to accept a plan depriving us of the right of self-determination?" he asked.

Mr Kaddumi said Israel had taken advantage of the focus on



Mr Kaddumi: Still hope for political solution.

Lebanon to step up repression in the West Bank and Gaza. He spoke shortly after the conference had accepted, amid applause, the PLO delegation as a full participant, at the same level as governmental delegations. This was in accordance with the recommendation of the preparatory committee.

## Judgment in Thornhill case today

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers are due to file into the High Court this morning for the final phase of the Thornhill sabotage trial. The outcome could have long-term consequences for Zimbabwe's relations with Britain and other Western nations.

Mr Justice Dumbutshena will deliver judgment on charges - that the officers helped to devastate the country's air defences - before a court packed with relatives and friends of the accused, journalists, diplomatic observers and legal experts.

However, most of those present will be just as intent on what happens afterwards as the judgment itself.

Legal sources here believe that at least some of the six will be acquitted. In the circumstances they believe the main question is whether the Government will allow acquitted officers to go free, or will re-detain them, as has happened in a number of previous security-related trials when judgment has gone against the state.

The six are Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater, former Deputy Commander of the Air Force, Air Commodore Philip Pile, Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, Wing Commander John Cox, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir.

All pleaded not guilty to assisting three unnamed South African agents to penetrate security at Thornhill to sabotage eight Hawker Hunters and four Hawk fighters on July 23, 1982. If found guilty they face the death penalty.

During the 44-day trial the state's production of statements by the officers admitting complicity were countered by evidence that they had been systematically denied access to lawyers and tortured in custody to force them to confess.

Four of the officers - Air Commodore Pile, Wing Commander Cox, Air Lieutenant Lloyd and Air Lieutenant Weir - hold dual British-Zimbabwean nationality, and concern at the allegations is understood to have included Downing Street. The matter almost certainly featured in talks between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Robert Mugabe when the Zimbabwe Prime Minister was in London recently.

At least three whites and six blacks acquitted by the courts are still in custody.

## Naked truth about Volga bath house

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Russian bath houses, unlike certain kinds of sauna baths in the West, are not normally associated with sin. They are strictly segregated, and in the ladies' baths women can sweat, swim each other with birch twigs, and gossip in the knowledge that their menfolk are safely out of earshot next door.

Comrade Tytkin had other ideas. As head of the baths' administration in Saratov, on the Volga, he obviously thought he had the right to inspect all his establishments. Or so he had told a colleague from Moscow one day as they shared a bottle of vodka in his office.

"Let's go and look at the ladies' bath," Tytkin said thickly. Moments later the two stood swaying in the doorway of the ladies' bath house.

The female attendant, thinking they had got lost, gently pushed the two men out, but they came back. "Don't you know who I am?" demanded Mr Tytkin, peering through the steam. "I am the director of the baths..."

The naked ladies advanced towards him, birch twigs in hand. "This is a random on-the-spot inspection," Mr Tytkin said, stepping backwards. "My colleague from Moscow..."

But his colleague had already retreated. One of the ladies phoned the police who threw Mr Tytkin out.

Comrade Tytkin rushed next door to the men's section, where he persuaded the beer-swilling customers to testify to the police that he was not drunk, as the women had claimed. He then called for beer for himself, and hearing that there was none left ordered the attendants to confiscate it from the customers.

The last straw came a few days later when Mr Tytkin, apparently unembarrassed, began checking the baths for unauthorized customers who had been admitted without tickets. The baths' attendants appealed to the newspaper *Trud*, which sent two reporters down to Saratov to uncover the naked truth.

Men and women bathers all told *Trud* that Mr Tytkin was a tyrant, a drunkard, and a lecher, who had also run a fly business on the side selling soap, cosmetics and towels.

Comrade Tytkin's fate is now being decided by the People's Control and the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services.

## Poison tide closes beaches in France

Bayonne (Reuters) - Dozens of barrels labelled "cyanide of sodium", carried away by floods in the Spanish Basque country, have been washed ashore in south-west France.

Local authorities have banned swimming on most beaches.

Navy officials alerted ships in the Gulf of Gascony to take care, and an operation was put in hand to recover barrels still afloat.

## Nigerian ruling party leads

Lagos (AFP) - President Shagari's National Party of Nigeria has won 145 of the 241 seats declared so far in Saturday's federal assembly elections.

The gains have further cemented the party's geographical spread. It polled more than 12 million votes, representing about 47 per cent of the total cast and reached the mandatory one-third of votes in 17 of the 19 states.

## General jailed

Peking (AP) - General Wang Dabin who commanded armies of Red Guards in the mid-1960s, had been sentenced to nine years in prison, according to a Canton newspaper. He was charged with framing and persecuting Marshal Peng Teh-huai, the former Defence Minister.

## Technical hitch

Antwerp (AP) - A 43-year-old businessman, Mr Jozef D'hassens, has been arrested on charges of selling United States computer equipment to Hungary in violation of a trade embargo. Three weeks ago a Foreign Ministry official was arrested for selling information about Western technology to the Soviet bloc.

## Thailand offer

Bangkok (Reuters) - Britain is prepared to take part in international financing of a \$520m petrochemical fertilizer project using natural gas from the Gulf of Thailand, according to Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, who is on a visit here.

## Protestant goes

Guatemala City (AP) - Señor Ricardo Asturias Valenzuela, a Roman Catholic, has replaced Señor Jorge Serrano Elias, a Protestant, appointed by ex-President Ríos Montt, as head of the advisory Council of State.

## Jail riot death

Honolulu, Oklahoma (AP) - Governor George Nigh declared a state of emergency as police and National Guards struggled to control a riot at the Conner Correctional Centre in which one prisoner died, 23 people were injured and five buildings were burnt.

## Corsica blasts

Alajaccio (Reuters) - Seven bombs exploded around the Corsican capital, after 10 similar attacks in the previous seven days. Buildings owned mainly by French residents were damaged.

## MiGs spotted

Tokyo (AP) - Japan's Defence Agency has confirmed that the Soviet Union is stationing MiG23 fighters on Etorofu island, off the northern island of Hokkaido. Etorofu is claimed by Japan but occupied by the Russians.

## Hit premiere

Athens (AP) - Mikis Theodorakis received a standing ovation at the Greek premiere of his First Symphony, at the Herod Atticus Theatre below the Acropolis. He is best known for his popular songs.

## Discord ends

New York (Reuters) - The New York City Opera Orchestra has accepted a new contract giving 6.5 per cent annual pay increases, after a 54-day strike during which musicians picketed the theatre.

## Trials stopped

Lorient (AP) - France has suspended indefinitely sea trials on a 280-ton gunboat ordered by Libya. France has already supplied Libya with nine similar vessels.

## Heroin seized

Zurich (AP) - Police have seized a woman and a South American drug dealer at Zurich airport with about 11lb of heroin intended for sale in Switzerland and Italy.

## Rebels routed

Maputo (AFP) - The Mozambican armed forces say they have swept through the southern province of Inhambane, destroying camps of the South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance and taking a "large number" of prisoners.

## Greenland Dew

Copenhagen (AFP) - The US is to build two more radar stations in Greenland as part of the distant early warning (Dew) defence system.

## Baby boom

Washington (AP) - World population grew by a record \$2,077,000 in the year ending 1982, to reach 4,721,887,000, according to the US Census Bureau.

## China says no

Peking (AFP) - China has rejected a Vietnamese proposal for a ceasefire until October 8 along their border.



## Furore over Bonn immigration policy

# Turk leaps to death from court

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

A left-wing Turkish activist whom the Government was trying to deport yesterday committed suicide by jumping from a sixth-floor window of the Berlin courthouse where his case was being heard.

He was Mr Kemal Altun, aged 23, and his death quickly unleashed a furor in Germany. The Social Democrats accused the Government of giving more credence to the Turkish military dictators than to its democratic opponents, and said Mr Altun was a victim of the harsh policy towards foreigners being pursued by Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the right-wing Minister of the Interior.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had made a personal plea that Mr Altun be granted asylum.

Mr Altun had become a test case for the Government's

declared intention to cut down the numbers granted asylum, but it aroused grave concern that it seemed to violate Germany's principle of not handing asylum-seekers back to the country where they faced persecution. His case was being heard by the highest administrative court of appeal, and he was supported by churchmen, trade unionists and numerous left-wing groups. Even Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, recently expressed doubts about deporting him to Turkey.

Mr Altun died at the start of the second day of the hearing, by hurling himself through an open window in the court room as soon as his handcuffs were removed. His lawyer shouted at him "Don't do it, Kemal" as he leapt up from his seat. Attempts lasting half an hour failed to revive him.

As the leader of a now banned

student group in Turkey, Mr Altun came to Berlin 18 months ago. Turkey accused him of complicity in an assassination attempt on a right-wing politician, but withdrew the charge on seeing his extradition.

He spent the past 13 months in custody while his case was considered. Amnesty International maintained he would be tortured and imprisoned if he was returned.

However, Herr Zimmermann, who has proposed various measures to encourage foreigners to leave Germany and to stop anyone obtaining immigration restrictions by making use of the liberal asylum laws, insisted that he be deported.

A number of other Turkish activists have already been sent back this year, and were promptly arrested on their return. This has

helped fuel growing public disquiet over the proposed measures against foreigners. Mr Altun's deportation was delayed while his case was tested in the Federal Supreme Court in Berlin, which was expected to set a precedent. Meanwhile he appealed to the European Human Rights Commission.

Last week his brother, a member of the Turkish Parliament, told the court of torture of members of opposition groups in Turkey.

The Government reacted quickly and with concern to Mr Altun's suicide. A spokesman said it was especially tragic because the difficulties of deciding whether to deliver asylum-seekers to Turkey were especially clear in his case. He said the authorities had been particularly careful to come to a fair decision.

## Mulroney sweeps to victory

From John Best, Ottawa

The new leader of Canada's Progressive Conservative Party, Mr Brian Mulroney, has won himself a seat in parliament, and, just as important, shown that he has a more widespread influence. He will take over as Opposition leader when the Commons reconvenes on September 12.

While Mr Mulroney was sweeping to an overwhelming by-election triumph in the Nova Scotia Riding of Central Nova on Monday, another Tory candidate was marching to victory in a by-election at the opposite end of the country in British Columbia.

The victory of Mr Gerry St Germain in Mission-Port Moody, BC, was an upset. Mr St Germain, a 44-year-old poultry farmer defeated the New Democratic Party (NDP) candidate, Sophie Weremchuk, a school trustee, by more than 3,000 votes.

This could be interpreted as a sign that the photogenic and charismatic Mr Mulroney, aged 44, who won the leadership in June without ever having run for parliament, has the "coal tails" to help pull other Tory candidates into the Commons.

With 211 of 212 polls counted, Mr Mulroney had about 19,000 votes. Mr Alvin Simard, Liberal candidate, 7,851; and Mr Roy De Marsh of the NDP 4,109.

In a victory statement, Mr Mulroney said the Tory vote offered new hope, new promise and new opportunity for Canada. "There is no longer any such thing as a safe Liberal seat anywhere in Canada".



Mr Mulroney: "No safe Liberal seat left"

## Aquino 'hired killer' named

Manila (AP, Reuters) - The Philippines Government has identified the man it says killed the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, and said he was a notorious "gun for hire" employed previously by crime syndicates or subversives.

The chief military investigator, Major General Prospero Olivas, said the man, who was shot dead by security forces immediately after Mr Aquino was killed on August 21, was named as Rolando Galman y Dawang.

President Marcos described the assassination as an "idiotic"

crime that no Filipino politician would commit.

At a meeting with United States Senator Mark Hatfield, yesterday, he said that only local communists stood to benefit, not his Government, his party or the opposition, according to a Presidential Palace statement.

The statement reported Senator Hatfield as saying he understood the country's problems and would urge President Reagan to carry on with his planned visit to the Philippines in November.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, Archbishop of Manila, yesterday called for a

council of national reconciliation to establish contact between the Government and the Filipino people after the Aquino murder.

Cardinal Sin, who will officiate at the funeral, in Manila today, refused to serve on the judicial panel set up by President Marcos to investigate the murder.

ESTABLISH: The Philippine Prime Minister, Mr Cesar Virata, said yesterday that - "Government elements" could have been involved in the Aquino murder (Reuters reports). In an interview he said: "We are not ruling that out. That is why an independent commission was formed".

## Greece fails to convince Trudeau

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, who briefly interrupted a Greek island holiday with his three sons to have official talks with the Greek leaders on Monday and Tuesday, said yesterday that he had disagreed with a Greek proposal for a six-month delay in the deployment of missiles in Europe to give the Geneva talks a better chance.

Mr Trudeau said that Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, had not convinced him that the postponement of the deadline to June 1984 would improve the chances of agreement. "There has already been some movement on both sides in Geneva and this is largely due to the fact that December is the deadline", he told a press conference.

Mr Papandreu said that he had discussed at length the missile proposal with Mr Trudeau. But quite paradoxically he added: "I found his position on the issue quite logical".

The two men discussed the prospect of Canadian investments in Greece, brisker bilateral trade, and transfers of Canadian technology. At a banquet on Monday night Mr Papandreu called his Canadian colleague a "great radical" while Mr Trudeau spoke of Mr Papandreu as an "unconventional prime minister".

Mr Trudeau also asked Mr Papandreu whether the withdrawal of the Canadian contingent which served for the past 19 years with the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus, could help solve the problem, but was told that this would hardly be the appropriate time



Dance of the toreador: The bull and matador Miguel Espinosa, known as "Armillita Chico", execute an evasive two-step in their encounter at San Sebastián de los Reyes, near Madrid.

## Norway tries to right disaster rig

Oslo (Reuters) - Norway plans a new attempt this week to right the Alexander Kielland accommodation rig, which capsized in a hurricane in the North sea over three years ago in the worst offshore rig disaster so far.

The rig capsized on March 27, 1980, killing 123 oil workers, after one of its 800-tonne steel legs

snappped loose. Oil industry experts hope a successful recovery will shed further light on the accident and improve safety.

Norwegian company Stolt-Nielsen Seaway Contracting is confident it has found a way to right the rig and it plans to begin trimming the 150ft tall steel structure tomorrow and then turn the rig two days later.

A company spokesman said the task was comparable to turning an 18-storey building upside down.

The French-built Alexander Kielland was used as a hotel by up to 350 oil workers on the Ekofisk field on Norway's North Sea continental shelf. At the time of the disaster, 232 workers were on board.

## Challenger launch turns night into day

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

In a flash of flame that turned night into day the space shuttle Challenger roared into orbit from Cape Canaveral yesterday to start a six-day mission.

Rain delayed the lift-off for 17 minutes and the shuttle departed at 2:32am in the first night launching of a space craft since Apollo 17 eleven years ago.

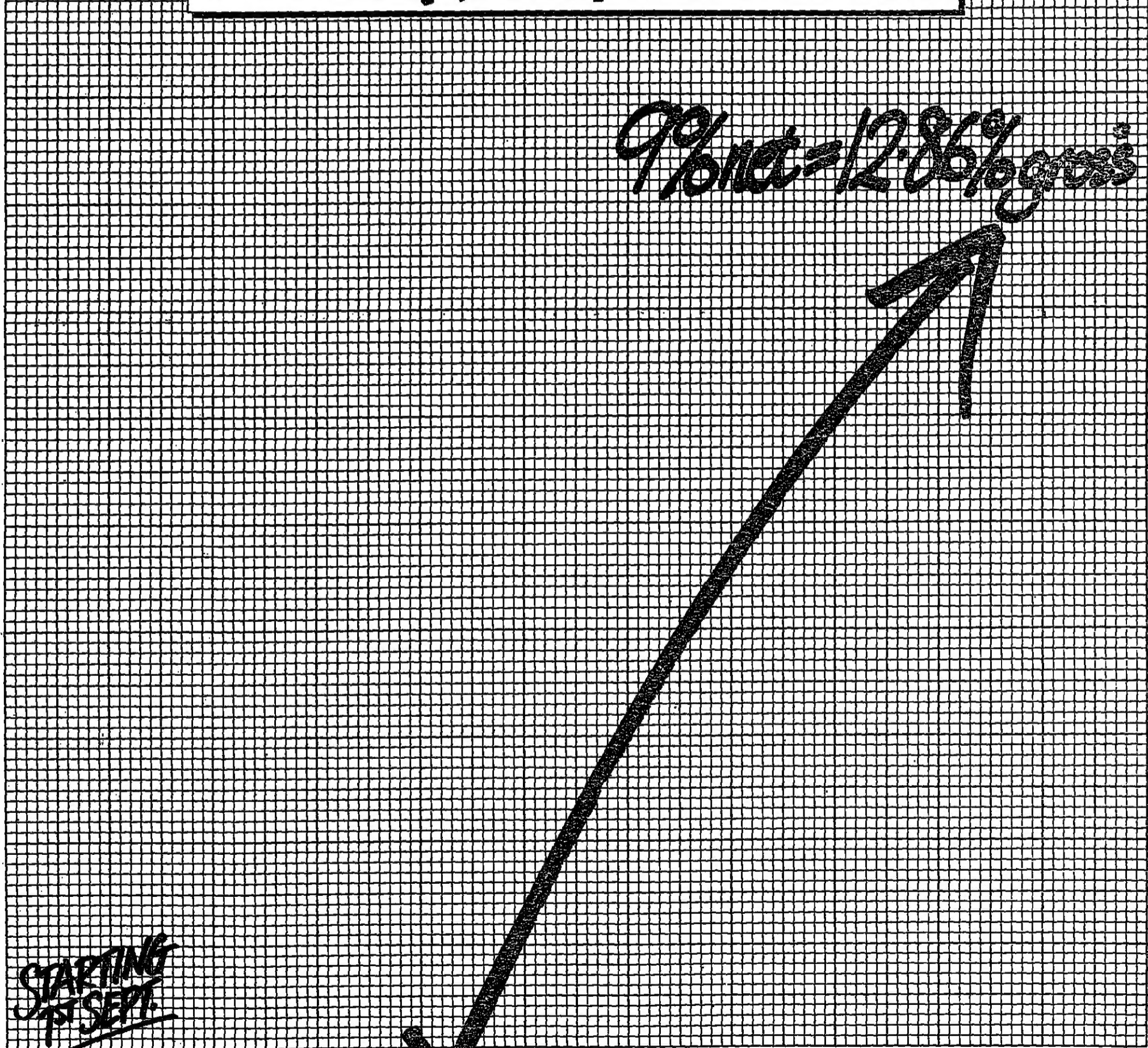
A few hours after the launching, television pictures from the spacecraft showed the five crew members going about their work. Challenger's journey is a dramatic demonstration of the reusability of the shuttle. The space craft made the seventh shuttle flight in July and was serviced in a record 67 days.

One of the main tasks on this trip is to launch Inert-7B, a communications satellite into orbit 22,300 miles above the Indian Ocean. The satellite which will provide telephone, television, and meteorological services for India, will be launched today with the shuttle's 50ft-long robot arm.

Among experiments to be conducted on board will be one which, it is hoped, will lead to a more efficient method of making insulin, leading to a new treatment for diabetes.

MOSCOW: The Soviet Union marked the launching of Challenger yesterday by renewing accusations that the United States is using the shuttle programme to militarize space. Tass said one of the crew's tasks was intended to help the Pentagon replace "spy satellites"

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HALIFAX THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BUILDING SOCIETY

## Pacific nuclear ban fails

From Tony Dobson, Melbourne

Australia has failed to achieve a strong commitment from the members of the South Pacific Forum for its proposal for a nuclear-free Pacific.

The forum concluded its two-day meeting in Canberra yesterday with an agreement in principle to the concept of a nuclear-free zone, but ministers felt that the time was not right to adopt a declaration supporting the plan.

Australia had hoped that if the forum agreed, the proposal could

have been circulated at the United Nations. This would have been an embarrassment to France.

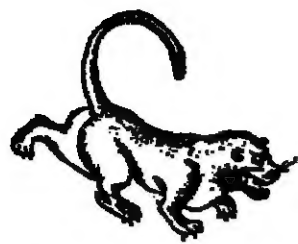
The forum appeared split between those who said that the Australian proposal did not go far enough and those who said that it went too far.

Australia, supported by New Zealand, has proposed that US vessels should be allowed transit rights within the framework of a nuclear-free Pacific.

\*ALL INTEREST RATES QUOTED ARE VARIABLE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE 1.75% PREMIUM WHICH IS GUARANTEED FOR TWO YEARS. GROSS RATES APPLY TO BASIC RATE TAXPAYERS. HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY, PO BOX 60, TRINITY ROAD, HALIFAX HD1 2RG.



Iskander Harappa married into Raza Hyder's family after Hyder had lost his first born son. Harappa patronizes his disappointed relative and appoints him as his personal trusty to reorganize his defeated army. But the roles are suddenly reversed in this third extract of *Shame* as Salman Rushdie concludes his fictional examination of the Zia-Bhutto rift and its continuing reverberations in Pakistan today.



## SUCH IS THE SHAPE OF DEATH

General Hyder would remember to his dying day the time he had visited Iskander Harappa to discuss the defence budget and been slapped across the face for his pains. "Expenditure is falling below acceptable levels, Isky," he informed the prime minister, and to his astonishment Harappa banged on his desk so fiercely that the Mont Blanc pens jumped in their holders and the shadows in the corners hissed with alarm. "Acceptable to whom?" Iskander Harappa shouted. "The army does not say what goes wrong. No longer. Get that into your head. If we allot you 50 paise a year, then that is what you must make do with. Get that straight and get out."

"Iskander," Raza said without raising his voice, "don't forget your friends."

"A man in my position has no friends," Harappa replied. "There are only temporary alliances based on mutual self-interest."

"Then you have ceased to be a human being," Raza told him, and added thoughtfully: "A man who believes in God must also believe in men." Iskander Harappa flew into an even more terrifying rage. "Look out, General," he shrieked, "because I can put you back in that dustbin where I found you." He had rushed out from behind his desk and was screaming right into Raza's face, depositing spittle on the general's cheeks. "God forgive you, Isky," Raza murmured, "you have forgotten that we are not your servants." It was at this point that Iskander Harappa struck him on a spittle-moistened cheek. He did not strike back, but remarked softly, "The blushes caused by such blows do not easily fade."

And in those later years, when Iskander Harappa was safely under the ground and his tough-as-nails daughter was locked away with her mother, Raza Hyder would find himself dreaming about that slap, and about all those years in which Isky Harappa had treated him like dirt. And Arjumand had been even worse; she had stared at him with such open hatred that he believed her capable of anything. Once Isky sent her, in his place, to the annual army parade, just to humiliate the soldiers by making them salute a woman, and a woman, what was more, who had no official status in the government; and Raza had made the mistake of mentioning his worries to the virgin Ironpans. "Maybe history has come between our houses," he said, "and things have gone wrong, but remember we aren't strangers, Arjumand, we go back a long way."

"I know," she said wistfully, "my brother is your cousin, I believe."

Chairman Iskander Harappa developed a toothache 30 seconds before the wings surrounded his home in the capital of unwanted airport terminals. His daughter Arjumand had just said something that tempted fate, and whenever anybody did that it made all Iskander's beetle-blackened teeth howl with superstitious anguish, especially after midnight, when such things are even more dangerous than they seem in the daylight.

The steam has gone out of the composition, Arjumand had suggested, much to her father's alarm. He had been nursing in a contented after-dinner fashion about the rumoured escape of an albino panther in the wooded hills of Bagheeragali some 40 miles away; forcing his thoughts out of those haunted woods he scolded his daughter. "God knows how to wash off this optimism of yours; I'll have to dunk you in the reservoir behind the Barrage Dam."

Then his teeth began giving him hell, worse than ever before, and he said aloud in his surprise what he had suddenly thought: "I am smoking the last but one cigar of my life." No sooner had the prophecy left his lips than they were joined by an uninvited guest, an army officer with the saddest face in the world, Colonel Shuja, for six years ADC to General Raza Hyder. The colonel saluted and informed the

prime minister of the coup. "Beg for pardon, sir, but you must accompany me at once to the Bagheeragali rest house."

Iskander Harappa realized that he had failed to grasp the meaning of his reverie, and smiled at his own stupidity. "You see, Arjumand," he said, "they want to feed me to the panther, isn't it so?" Then he turned to Shuja and asked who had given such orders. "Chief Martial Law Administrator, sir," the colonel replied. "General Hyder, sir, beg for pardon."

"Look at my back," Iskander told his daughter, "and you will see a coward's knife."

Harappa was detained in some comfort at the government rest house in Bagheeragali, where of course he was not eaten by a panther. He even retained the use of a telephone, for incoming calls only; the Western newspapers found out the number and Iskander gave long, eloquent interviews to many overseas journalists. In these interviews he made detailed accusations, casting numerous doubts on Raza Hyder's good faith, moral fibre, sexual potency and legitimacy of birth. Still Raza remained tolerant. "That Isky," he confided to Colonel Shuja, "highly-strung bloke. Always was. And the chap is naturally upset; I'd be the same in his shoes. Also one must not believe everything one reads in the Christian press."

"Suppose you hold elections and he wins, sir," Colonel Shuja ventured as his face acquired the most dolorous expression Raza had ever seen on that unhappy countenance, "beg for pardon, sir, but what'll he do to you?"

Raza Hyder looked surprised. "What is this do?" he cried. "To me? His old comrade, his family member by marriage? Have I tortured him? Have I thrown him in the public lock-up? Then what is there for him to do?"

"Family of gangsters, sir," Shuja said, "those Harappas, everyone knows. Revenge crimes and what-all, it's in their blood, beg for pardon, General."

From that moment Raza Hyder's bruised forehead acquired deep furrows of thought, and two days later he announced to his ADC, "We're going to see that fellow pronto and just sort everything out."

Afterwards Colonel Shuja would swear that until that meeting between Raza and Iskander the general had never thought of assuming the presidency. "That stupid man," he always stated when asked, "brought his fate on his own head." Shuja drove with General Hyder to Bagheeragali, and as the staff car climbed the hill roads their nostrils were assailed by the sweet scent of pine-cones and beauty, those aromas which had the power of lifting the heaviest hearts and making one think that nothing was insoluble. And at the Bagheeragali bungalow the ADC waited in an antechamber while the fateful conference took place.

Iskander Harappa's premonition about the cigars had come true, because in spite of all the air-conditioning units and cut-glass goblets and Shirazi rugs and other creature comforts at the rest house he had been unable to locate a single ashtray, and when he asked the guards to have a box of his favourite Havanas sent from his home they had politely told him it was impossible.

The smoking ban possessed Isky's thoughts, wiping out his appreciation of his comfortable bed and good meals, because it was plain that somebody had ordered the guards to deny him his smokes, so he was being told something - watch out - and he didn't like it, no sir. The absence of cigar smoke left a rancid taste in his mouth. He began to chew betel nut non-stop, deliberately spitting the juice out on the priceless rugs, because his rage had begun to overcome the fastidious elegance of his true nature. The pangs made his teeth hurt even more, so what with everything that had gone wrong inside his mouth it wasn't surprising his words turned bad as well.

Raza Hyder could not have been expecting the reception he got, because he went into Iskander's room with a conciliatory smile on his face; but the moment he shut the door the cursing began, and Colonel Shuja swore that he saw wisps of blue smoke emerging from the keyhole, as if there were a fire



inside, or 420 Havana cigars all smoking away at the same time.

Isky Harappa cursed Raza for an hour and a half without permitting any interruption. Betel juice and the absence of tobacco added to his already enormous vocabulary of imprecations, a deadlier rancour than he had ever possessed in the days of his rakehell youth. By the time he finished the walls of that room were splattered from top to bottom with betel juice, the curtains were ruined, it looked as if a herd of animals had been slaughtered in there, as if turkeys or goats had been struggling wildly in their death-throes, rushing around the room with the blood spewing from the red smiles on their throats. Raza Hyder came out with paan juice dripping off his clothes, his moustache was full of it and his hands shook as the red fluid dribbled off his fingertips, as if his hands had been washed in a bowl of Iskander's lifeblood. His face was paper-white.

General Hyder did not speak until the staff car had pulled up outside the C-in-C's residence. Then he said casually to Colonel Shuja: "I have been hearing some terrible things about Mr Harappa's period in office. That man does not deserve to be set loose. He is a menace to the country."

Two days later General Hyder's son-in-law, Talvar Ulhaq, made the statement in which, under oath, he accused Iskander Harappa of arranging for the murder of his cousin, Little Mir. When Colonel Shuja read this document he thought, wonderingly: "Just look where bad language will get you."

Chairman Iskander Harappa was taken from Bagheeragali rest house to the Kot Lakhpat jail in Lahore. He was

kept there in solitary confinement. He suffered from malaria and from infections of the colon. There were bouts of severe influenza. His teeth began to fall out; and he lost weight in other ways as well.

The trial took place in the High Court at Lahore, before five Punjab judges. At one point Iskander used the phrase, "Damn it," and was reprimanded for the use of bad language in court. He apologized: "My state of mind is not good." The Chief Justice replied: "We don't care." This made Iskander lose his temper. "I've had enough," he cried, "of insults and humiliations." The Chief Justice ordered police officers: "Take that man away until he regains his senses." Another judge added the following remark: "We cannot tolerate this. He thinks he is the former Prime Minister, but we do not care for him." All this is on the record.

At the end of the six-month trial, Iskander Harappa was sentenced to hang by the neck until dead and immediately moved into the death-cell at Kot Lakhpat jail. He was given just seven days, instead of the usual 30, to lodge an appeal.

Iskander announced: "Where there is no justice, there is no point in seeking it. I shall not appeal."

What is the shape of death? Death's cell is ten feet long, seven wide, eight high, 62.2 cubic yards of finality beyond which there awaits a certain courtyard, a last cigar, silence. I will insist on Romeo's Julietas. That story also ends in death... They call this solitary confinement but he is not alone, there are flies fornicating on his toenails and mosquitoes drinking from the pool of his wrists, putting the blood

mentalism" does not spring in Pakistan, from the people. It is imposed on them from above. Autocratic regimes find it useful to espouse the rhetoric of faith, because people respect that language; are reluctant to oppose it. This is how religious shortsightedness, by teaching them with words of power, words which the people are reluctant to see discredited, disenfranchised, mocked.

But the ramming-down-the-throat point stands. In the end you get sick of it, you lose faith in the faith, if not quite faith then certainly as the basis for a state. And then the dictator falls, and it is discovered that he has brought God down with him, that the justifying myth of the nation has been unmade. This leaves only two options: disintegration, or a new dictatorship... no, there is a third, and I shall not be so pessimistic as to deny its possibility. The third option is the substitution of a new myth for the old one. Here are three such myths, all available from stock at short notice: liberty; equality; fraternity.

So-called Islamic "fundamentalism" I recommend them highly.

Elections were not held. Raza Hyder became president. All this is well known.

moreover... Miles Kington

## Whispers of old army boots

Kenneth's military fiction marches on! The success of *Bliss* and *Bag*, moreover's new imprint, which satisfies both male and female fantasies, seems unstoppable. The secret of these reader, thunderous crowds is that they are as soft as an eyelash, yet as uncompromising as a kick in the shin with an army boot.

Accordingly we present to eager readers a small run-down of new titles on our list.

**Harbours of Love**, by Gwendolyn Fastner. High in the sleek over *Darkling* the Spindle and *Messerschmidt* twisted and turned, each trying to gain ascendancy over the other. "Harbours of Love" is the story of the Spindle, had already won down 20 times, yet she knew that this time she had an opponent worthy of her.

"Get you now," she whispered, as she turned and looked towards the sleek shape of the German plane. But all she saw was empty sky. Glancing back over her shoulder, she saw with horror the Messerschmidt coming down at her out of the sun. Then was no way she could escape now. With resignation, she pulled her hair into a ponytail and closed her eyes. "We'll meet again, Weiss nicht where, weiss nicht when," said her radio softly. She opened her eyes, just in time to see the enemy cockpit flash past and a cherry face wink at her. Johnny von Arncliffe! The one they called the Handcannon Man. How she hated him. Horribly humiliated, she realized that he had just spared her life.

"I'll get you, Johnny," she vowed. And so indeed she would, but she never suspected that it would be as Mrs Johnny von Arncliffe, after twists and turns of fate that would leave history breathless.

**The Silver Snake**, by Trudi Blomstedt. "We do not usually take women in the Foreign Legion," said Major Pierre Denois. He paused, regarding the way her trim figure fitted into the uniform. "And yet, in your case... I presume you are joining to forget a great and tragic love?"

"Not at all," said Jean bristly. "I am looking for adventure, a hard life and a bit of a smooch."

Adventure came sooner than she thought. That evening she was pinned in a corridor of the fort by an unshaven Yugoslav recruit called Yulovick, who smelt of cheap wine. His hands started to explore her uniform. "I have never had a girl from Guildford," he leered.

"Nor will you, laddie!" sang out a voice. It was Alec, the clergy Glaswegian she had met earlier. But before Alec could move, Jean had kneeled Yulovick in the groin, chopped him to the back of the neck and kicked him twice expertly as he sank groaning to the floor.

"This fort needs cleaning up and I aim to see it gets done," said Jean clearly as she strode past the open-mouthed Alec. Behind a hidden screen Major Denois smiled and twirled his moustache. He would break this little desert beauty before long, he thought, which showed how little he knew about girls from Guildford.

**The Hot Summer Campaign**, by Wendy Threlkeld.

On the retreat through Greece in front of the advancing Germans, Captain Leonard Tasker felt strangely protective towards the 3,000 men and 2,000 mules under his command. He also felt strangely protective towards Xenia, the proud Greek peasant girl who had attracted him to the company, even the accommodation was desperately hard to find the best.

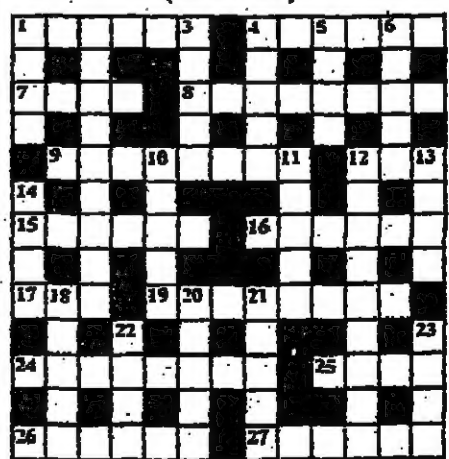
"Hope you don't mind mentioning it to you, sir," said the old sergeant to him one day. "The men are beginning to talk about the way that girl sleeps in your tent at night."

"Heavens," said Leonard, flushing. "Surely they don't think there's anything..."

But Leonard's loyalties are sharply divided when Xenia, out foraging for yoghurt, is captured by the Germans. Should he continue the retreat without her, or turn and fight them for possession of the girl whom he finds so inexplicably fascinating despite not being able to understand a word she says? A taut epic of revenge, pursuit and military incompetence, with many riveting details about mule maintenance.

Coming soon: *SAS Sally*, by Lavinia Spillie; *No Funeral for Lacey*, by Gloria Platon; *Snipers Beware*, by Trudi Welling; *Don't Let the Sun Shine on the Captain* by Kitty O'Tranch, etc.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 137)



- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>             | <b>DOWN</b>           |
| 1 Calm (6)                | 1 Support (4)         |
| 4 Chipped (6)             | 2 Space traveller (9) |
| 7 Swear word (4)          | 3 Bobsdown (5)        |
| 8 Tent area (4,4)         | 4 Wanderer (5)        |
| 9 Washing letter (8)      | 5 Money (4)           |
| 12 Aged (3)               | 6 Lead (5)            |
| 15 Enthusiastic (6)       | 10 Father (5)         |
| 16 Shooting star (6)      | 11 Eyeglasses (5)     |
| 17 Floor covering (3)     | 12 In the red (9)     |
| 19 Great delight (8)      | 13 Dissuade (4)       |
| 24 Speak incoherently (8) | 14 Blow (4)           |
| 25 Sloping walk (4)       | 15 Approval (5)       |
| 26 Force (6)              | 16 Large guest house  |
| 27 Of race group (6)      | 21 Cleave (5)         |
|                           | 22 Pointed end (4)    |
|                           | 23 Long poem (4)      |

**SOLUTION TO No 136**  
 ACROSS: 1. Support 2. Space 3. Bobsdown 4. Wanderer 5. Money 6. Lead 7. Swear word 8. Tent area 9. Washing letter 10. Father 11. Eyeglasses 12. In the red 13. Dissuade 14. Blow 15. Approval 16. Large guest house 17. Floor covering 18. Great delight 19. Speak incoherently 20. Force 21. Cleave 22. Pointed end 23. Long poem  
 DOWN: 1. Support 2. Space 3. Bobsdown 4. Wanderer 5. Money 6. Lead 7. Swear word 8. Tent area 9. Washing letter 10. Father 11. Eyeglasses 12. In the red 13. Dissuade 14. Blow 15. Approval 16. Large guest house 17. Floor covering 18. Great delight 19. Speak incoherently 20. Force 21. Cleave 22. Pointed end 23. Long poem



WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

The radical chic of it all

I am - aren't we all? - a member of a nuclear family, and the four-month-old baby is by far our most potent piece of weaponry. He goes off to irregular intervals, and, like the neutron bomb, destroys life as we know it while leaving property intact. He is doing so now. The Street Radical drops by in search of cooperation for the summer party. Fine in principle, except that his house is a Nuclear Free Zone - it says so on the front window - so presumably I would be disbarred from attending meetings there with the above progeny.

SALT talks convened at, where else? the breakfast table. My son is standing out for increased spending on conventional arms, including a full Robin Hood outfit and life-size claymore. He reckons this would bring him into line with his sister's receipt of a battery organ, the Junior Tomemaster. I explain that this does not fall within the nuclear umbrella, being an instrument of culture and harmony, but at this moment an atomic tocatoca, more Schoenberg than Schumann, pulses in from the "music room". Not even Holst's bringer of war could stiffen the sinews and summon up the blood so well, and I begin to see the lad's point. This is clearly an issue for the next full CRUET conference (Conference to Resist Unnecessarily Expensive Toys). The baby, meanwhile, is chipping in with his own strident early warning system, which bodes ill for the mid-1980s. These emerging nations are all very well, but they are often a bit light on diplomacy.

My son appears with a gaudy brochure of the desired hardware. Jane's Fighting Planes could have unveiled its readership with such vivid display, and I confess I am drawn to the document. But goodness, the prices. Even the most humble instrument of obliteration is an unacceptably high proportion of the gross domestic product. My son is furious at this and stamps off down the hall to convene an ad hoc YELL meeting.

I take another look at the pamphlet of death and am intrigued as to where it came from. Petranella's boys? I doubt it: there is a freeze on relations with them. The Mailand children? No, such literature would not be commensurate in this state; the household has always held itself up as a demilitarized zone (despite the Strosser-like paternalism of the president), a sort of Costa Rica of the

Central Richmond Isthmus. Where then? I have a hunch it emanates from the Street Radical's preserve. Just a hunch, but a very strong one. I fancy there is a marked strain of bellicosity in his protectorate. You only have to look at his two cats, Fidel and Raoul, and their wild-eyed forays into the scrubland of the park.

First meeting of SPOC (Summer Party Organization Committee). We are chez Street Radical in his surprisingly bijou dwelling. There are Sandinista posters behind the fireplace against the hesitancy, and the rear sector of the knocked-through lounge is solid with Baluchistan. Around the table are Mr and Mrs Radical (she too is in publishing); two of their (I do not mean to be unkind) token pensioners; myself and - dear God - Petranella. Not even Contadora could have assembled such a range of potential dissonance. I have put my head in the lion's mouth by bringing the neutron bomb with me, but Fidel and Raoul are showing a surprising sense of rapport (I hope that is what it is) by slinking across the Amticco towards the pram.

A breakdown in the CRUET talks, with a charm between the two superpowers (wife and self), and heightened tension among the client states. I realize now that we have gone multilateral (beleaguered on all sides).

Radical roars down the road in his poor man's Range-Rover - the Rancho Sumatra or Macho Sinatra or whatever it is - and my hunch about the pamphlet hardens into a conviction.

Second SPOC meeting. It now transpires that party proceeds are to go to CND, at which point the pensioners, and Petranella, stand up to leave. There is no warlike aspect to match that of the Old Dear when roused. Petranella, of course, needs no such metamorphosis. I have in my hand a piece of paper, to coin a phrase. It is THAT PAMPHLET, smuggled in beneath the counterpane of the pram, and I let it drop on to the Amticco as the Radical boys team into the smoke-filled conference room with the glint of fresh atrocities in their eyes. The elder one (quite a senior citizen at nine), snatches it from the floor, screaming: "It's mine! It's mine!"

A compromise: party profits will now go to the NSPCC. Save the Parents will not take this lying down.



TALKBACK

Still in fear

From a reader in south-west London. As one of those "battered wives" we hear so much about, I would like to put another side of the access rights controversy.

For years I was married to a very violent man until I finally escaped with my two sons to a Woman's Aid refuge. In due course I obtained various injunctions, custody orders and my decrees. Even so, I feel that my sons had a right to see him. I did not fight the access order. I am now committed, for the next 10 years, to making sure that the children are at a certain place at a certain time three Sundays a month.

What this means is that I can never be free of him. He will always know where I am, what I do, whom I see and who visits me. He questions the children about this all the time. Any future relationship I may form will be overshadowed by the fear that he will know about it and that my friends will be harassed (or worse). Violent men rarely have any respect for the law, they act first and consider the consequences afterwards.

I lost my home and all my possessions (my sense of privacy included everything else), and I can hardly be said to have gained my freedom or even peace of mind. Having lived in fear of this man for years I find I am still living in fear of him - because the access rights demand that I have to do so.

Cervical cancer

From Dr O. A. N. Husain, Regional Cytology Centre, The Division of Pathology, Victoria Health Authority, St Stephen's Hospital, Chelsea, SW10.

Your article, "How Screen Tests Can Save Lives" (August 17), has missed an important point at issue. The screening programme of the NHS carries out about three million smear tests each year to cover the 15 to 17 million women at risk from cervical cancer. If evenly spread over the population, such an effort would have a substantial effect on the mortality rate from this cancer, which exists, on average, for some five to 10 years as a detectable pre-cancerous condition. Of all the smear tests received by the screening laboratories in this country, some 55 per cent come from those under 35 years old (from about seven million women) compared with 45 per cent from the 14 million over 35.

It is only when the numbers screened risk to a significant level that the mortality drops. It is obvious that between 60 and 70 per cent of the young women in this country are probably having tests compared with less than 30 per cent of those over 35, when true cancer develops.

Concentration of effort, therefore, should be on involving by persuasion and encouragement to the young middle-aged and older women to come forward to be tested. A much higher proportion of over 35s attend the screening projects at the mobile clinics of the Women's National Cancer Centre Campaign than those who attend the statutory clinics. The problem is not one of providing screening service, it is the involvement of those at greatest risk, apart from the more sexually active high risk groups, are those of age. We must attract the 35 to 55s to avail themselves of our free screening service. The task is one of health education and publicity and provision of a wide range of smear collections to suit all groups and ages of women.

Sclerosis therapy

From Dr P. B. James. I would like to correct a number of points in the article "MS dispute" (Medical Briefing, August 5). The use of hyperbaric oxygen in the treatment of multiple sclerosis is not based on my proposition that the cause of the initial damage in the disease is the blockage of the microcirculation of the nervous system by fat particles.

These ideas were the subject of an article in *The Lancet* last year, but reports of improvement with intermittent high pressure oxygen have been published independently in six countries over the last 13 years, and relate to more than 700 patients. These have been confirmed by controlled animal studies and a double-blind, controlled trial in multiple sclerosis sufferers at New York University, despite the utilization of oxygen in a way appropriate to a pharmaceutical preparation.

The credit for most of the recent effort should go to Dr R. A. Neuberger of Florida, who has continued to use and research this therapy in spite of constant opposition, because he found it was of benefit to patients, even in the later stages of the disease when there is no question of a cure. Finally, the 250 patients treated in Dundee have been treated by ARMS, in their self-help centre, not by me.

Veronica Grocock talks to a woman to whom keeping the house clean is a painful obsession

Betty Friedan, the American writer, once declared, in a variation on Parkinson's Law, that "housework expands to fill the time available". The year was 1963, and Ms Friedan's book, *The Feminist Mystique*, became a seminal feminist text for its exposure of the "bored housewife" syndrome. Despite the benefits of labour-saving gadgets, she observed, the modern housewife probably spent more time on housework than her grandmother did.

Twenty years on, June Quehen's bungalow in Lewes, a microcosm of neatness in this small, spruce Sussex town, is tangible testimony to the claim. She shares it with husband Steve, a freelance composer and arranger, their 13-year-old son Timothy, and a cat called Mu-lon.

The family home is scrupulously devoid of dust and clutter. Walls and surfaces gleam, most of the furniture is modern and functional, and every item has its allotted place. Nothing less would satisfy June Quehen, whose desire for a tidy home oversteps normal boundaries of domestic punctiliousness. Her days are dominated by a punishing ritual of cleaning, washing and polishing, in strict rotational order, from nine in the morning until bedtime (shopping, cooking and other chores have to be fitted in later). It is a daily obsession that has remained with her throughout 31 years of marriage, despite all attempts to thwart it with drugs, psychotherapy and electric shock treatment.

A sanatorially dressed, intelligent and articulate woman of 34, June Quehen can rationalize her bizarre obsession, and even joke about it, albeit in a weary, déjà vu fashion. But if she ever tries to stop the ritual, she becomes hysterical or deeply depressed.

"The depression seems to lift when I've finished cleaning," she says. "I feel I've achieved something at the end of each day. I haven't, but my head feels clearer."

"The family suffer terribly. The thought of my mess is devastating for me. I live in terror of burglars. They were burgled once, in their previous home in Brighton. Luckily, she recalls wryly, "he was an exceptionally tidy burglar."

The Quehens rarely entertain at home, because of the inevitable disruption to her routine. Yet it is hard to reconcile June Quehen's poised, outgoing manner and well-groomed appearance with the "obsessional" tag. She seems the antithesis of the fustered household drudge.

"It's a big act," she says, "a facade that I've adopted over the years. I go to great lengths not to make people feel uncomfortable. I can keep up appearances, but I get in such a terrible state inside that I feel sick with it. It makes friendships a bit limited. I often wonder what would happen if the house was on fire. I'm



sure I would still have to finish cleaning it!"

Although she laughs now and again at what she terms her "madness", she is only too aware of the resultant strains on family life. She still feels guilty about her decision to send Timothy, an only child, to boarding school. "He was only eight. I wouldn't allow his friends in the house, and that is so very bad for a child. He couldn't play or develop properly. I was always tidying his toys and putting them away."

Timothy, who plans to move out soon and share a flat, is reticent by nature, but admits that his mother's obsessional behaviour has been "getting on my nerves quite a bit over the past few months. It does affect you, because of other things on my mind like trying to get a job."

"My mum comes into my room and dusts around, but not if I have friends here. A mate I have known for six or seven years, has got used to it. I don't usually tell my friends because it's too long a story - not that it would bother me if someone found out. A couple of years ago it might have done."

Steve Quehen rents a small office in Brighton. In their previous home, he worked in a converted garage in the basement. As a composer/arranger he needed to surround himself with stacks of paper.

"It was not that messy and muddy," he recalls, "but I liked to think it could have been... June never really liked the room. She thought it was a nasty, dirty hole. I was always rather unhappy that she didn't like that atmosphere of muddle."

"I knew she was a depressive. The obsession seemed to arise out of the depression. It crept up without one expecting it."

"I used to take Tim out on Sundays to get him out of the way when he was quite little. I always felt that June couldn't function till I was out of her way. Only if she was really 'in extremis' would I be diverted from my work. One chucks the sponge in then, and stays up a couple of hours to make up time. She always gave me as much freedom as she possibly could to work."

"One copes because one has to. I have got so used to it that it really doesn't matter any more. I have a nice clean home..."

"What really distresses me is seeing June become increasingly tired by this obsession as the years

roll by. I am upset that earlier on it wasn't possible, medically, for it to be sorted out, so that this very real physical tiredness could have been alleviated."

Steve wipes the dishes or lays the table but other chores are strictly June's domain. She, no one else, must see to them, and if he says, "Tim makes his bed and I go and remake it", she admits, "If I've had a bad bout of flu, Steve's helped out, but all the time I am worried sick: 'Will I ever get it straight again?' I can't relax and enjoy my life!"

A period cottage with "character" would be more to her taste, but all these nooks and crannies would only spell disaster. She tried living in one once, but became suicidal and suffered a massive breakdown culminating in two years as a psychiatric inpatient.

She has tried part-time work, but could not cope and "collapsed" in a heap "after saying up all night to get the housework done. She admits she is getting more and more exhausted each day."

"I've cut myself off from relatives. They just say 'Pull yourself together'. That annoys me, because nobody could be more involved - mentally with outside interests, than myself."

"Friends 'drop' me because they know I can never get out. It's almost my dream to go out for a morning coffee... I don't think people really understand when it comes down to practicalities - when you can't get somewhere, can't do something. They just drift off in the end. I feel completely isolated."

"Yes, I'm afraid I do feel bitter. I've tried not to. Now that old age is creeping on, I find it's all been such a sheer waste."

The only time she can ever "switch off" is when she goes away for a short break. Even then, after a few days she starts scouring the hotel broom cupboard... "I must be a chambermaid's dream!"

At home she has "got through" endless vacuum cleaners and always keeps one on standby, just in case.

Perhaps the cruellest irony is June's dislike of the "conventional housewife" image. She bristles when praised for being "houseproud". "People refuse to accept it is a problem, an illness. They think of it as a virtue. 'Come and do my house', they say. I'm tired of that one."

Psychiatric theories as to what triggered off June Quehen's obsession range from a traumatic affair with a married man when she was 18, to her upbringing. She says she was a "typical" teenager, very untidy, but never had a real "base". Her mother was housekeeper to a clergyman: "It was very much an upstairs/downstairs life. When I married and had a place of my own, I wanted to make it perfect."

At the back of her mind, she is uneasy about losing her obsession, frightened of the void it would leave in such a rigidly structured life.

One remaining option is a brain operation. Anxious though she is to find a cure, June Quehen feels this would be too drastic a step. "Enter the devil you know than be some kind of vegetable."

How these 'rituals' can be treated

The OED definition of obsession is "an unreasonably persistent idea in the mind." Joy Melville, in *Phobias And Obsessions*, describes obsessive rituals as "placatory acts" designed to ward off "unspecified but impending doom." They "reassure" obsessives that no harm will befall them.

One common method of treatment is behaviour therapy. This exposes a patient to the particular "cue" that sparks off the ritual. Compulsive cleaners like June Quehen would be confronted with deliberate untidiness and dissuaded from clearing it up. Drawers and cupboards would be flung open and their contents left in disarray.

Dr Robert Sharpe practises behaviour therapy in Wimpole

Street. "Obsessionality," he says, "is a matter of degree. Everybody is obsessive. Some people have to spend the first hour getting up, washing, dressing and so on, in a very ritualistic fashion. It is a normal coping mechanism."

"It's when the rituals start to eat into, and take over, other parts of the waking day, that they become pathological."

He believes that an obsession with housework often stems from excessive conditioning into the traditionally female role. "Some women become obsessively guilty because they are 'only' housewives - forgetting that they are doing the most tricky job of all: bringing up young kids and looking after a home."

"The general theme is under-used

talent. 'The Devil makes work for idle hands' is very opposite in this situation."

Colin Blowers, a behaviour therapist with a nursing background at Brighton's New Sussex Hospital, emphasizes the vital role of the therapist, a friend or relative who can be taught the correct approach and responses in the patient's treatment - the pat on the back when a ritualistic urge is curbed, the ready cup of tea or coffee as reward for achieving mutually agreed "targets".

He has found that about 50 per cent of obsessional patients can be helped. About three people per thousand develop obsessional problems of various kinds, he says, and men are equally prone to the condition.

Naughty but nice

GUEST COOK



Jennie Reekie

and American chocolate mousse torte are two.

I am also pleased to report that after a six-month sabbatical we are all eating chocolate again, and I did make some permanent friends among neighbours who loved the handouts. I wish I could have handed over the extra pounds I had gained as a job lot with my manuscript. I regret they are still sitting there as a permanent reminder. Maybe I should start writing a slimming book now.

Although I found chocolate mousse torte an American recipe, I think it is probably German in origin. I found similar cake recipes in my researches, but they were not as successful as this one, which is rather unusual in that you first bake about three-quarters of the mixture, which rises, rather like a soufflé, and then sinks as it cools. You then fill the hole in the middle with the remainder of the uncooked mixture to make a filling.

American chocolate mousse torte Serves six to eight

- 15g (½oz) butter
- 2 tablespoons dry breadcrumbs (raspings)
- 225g (8oz) plain chocolate
- 1 tablespoon instant coffee granules
- 4 tablespoons water
- 8 eggs, separated
- 170g (6oz) caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence

To decorate: 150ml (½ pint) whipping cream

Chocolate curls or grated chocolate

Lightly butter a 23cm/9in deep

crumbs. Put the chocolate, coffee and water into a basin. Stand over a pan of hot water and leave until the chocolate has melted and the coffee dissolved. Remove from the heat. Whisk the egg yolks and sugar in a large bowl until they are thick and creamy, then gradually beat in the chocolate and then the vanilla essence. Whisk the egg whites until they are stiff, then fold into the chocolate mixture.

Fill the dish with about three quarters of the mixture, cover the remainder and chill in the refrigerator. Bake the contents of the flan dish in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F mark 4) for 25 minutes. Turn off the oven and bake for a further 5 minutes, then remove from the oven and leave to cool for two hours. Fill the cavity in the centre with the remaining mixture and chill for 30 minutes. Whip the cream and spread over the top, then sprinkle the top with chocolate curls or grated chocolate.

Rum cake is a moist chocolate cake. It is not iced, but should be served with lashings of whipped cream or crème chantilly. It is best kept for at least 24 hours before serving so that it becomes very soft and moist, but once cut it should be eaten as soon as possible.

Rum cake Makes one 20cm (8in) cake

- 110g (4oz) self-raising flour
- ½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 45g (1½oz) cocoa
- 6 tablespoons cold water
- 3 tablespoons dark rum
- 110g (4oz) butter
- 225g (8oz) caster sugar
- 2 eggs
- 55g (2oz) ground almonds

Well grease and line a 19-20cm/7½-8in round cake tin. Sift together the flour and bicarbonate of soda. Sift the cocoa into a basin and stir in the water and rum. Cream the butter and sugar together until light; the high proportion of sugar to butter means that it will not become as light as if they were equal proportions. Gradually beat in the eggs, a little at a time. Carefully fold in the almonds, then the flour and cocoa mixture alternately. Turn into the prepared tin and bake in a preheated moderate oven (160°C/325°F mark 3) for about one hour or until the centre of the cake springs back when lightly pressed. Cool in the tin for five minutes, turn out and cool on a wire rack. Wrap in greaseproof paper and foil or place in a tin until required.



## THE ARTS

## EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Bridget Reilly's long interest in the dynamics of form and colour has at last, perhaps inevitably, turned her to designing for dance: Ballet Rambert premiere Robert North's *Colour Moves* at the King's Theatre tomorrow. Interview by Roger Berthoud

## Shining visions of an abstract future

Bridget Reilly with her wall decorations for the Royal Liverpool Hospital and (right) working with assistants on the designs for *Colour Moves*

Given Bridget Reilly's deep interest as an abstract painter in the dynamic properties of form and colour, it was an inspired idea of the Ballet Rambert's artistic director, Robert North, to commission her to design a new ballet, to her first. Judging by a model at her home in Holland Park, her work is likely to make a strong impact when *Colour Moves* has its debut at the Edinburgh Festival tomorrow. North has done the choreography, the music is by Christopher YOUNG, and the costumes by Andrew Storer.

A slim woman of 51 with short, dark hair and very blue eyes, she explains how she set about the task. "Robert North invited me to 'go first', as it were: that is, to design the sets first. The music and choreography would then be set to the visual situation I had made. That was a tremendously exciting challenge."

"Robert liked the studies I had pinned up around the studio, he liked the way one colour reacted upon another, and thought that we could make an abstract colour ballet on the

basis of these relationships. Initially I took five colours and designed five backcloths, each dominated by one colour. The sequence of the cloths had to be thought about: red and yellow form natural hues, for instance, while blue and green are quieter."

"The next difficulty was how to link the colours so they formed a continuous whole. We decided to use the colours of the costumes to make the transitions, so the dancers carry the development of the ballet from one colour-space, set or act to the next."

As she worked on the cloths, she noticed that a blue dancer against a blue cloth gives a mysterious, ethereal, almost disembodied feeling, while the same blue dancer leaps to life against a vivid yellow cloth. So, by reacting upon each other, the dancers and backcloths generate distinct moods and give the ballet a theme of metamorphosis. All the colours come together in stripes in a joyous finale.

Those vertical stripes of colour form the subject-matter of her latest

paintings. Why stripes rather than the more complex designs on which her international reputation was built? "They have the maximum exposure of edge," she says, "and it's along the edges that the interactions take place."

"When two colours interact, they produce a third, disembodied colour which takes the form of coloured light and seems to come off the canvas. Viewing distance is crucial, and so is the light in which it is seen: daylight is by far the best." She was not, she points out, aiming for any interaction of that sort in the recently unveiled wall decorations for some corridors of the Royal Liverpool Hospital, but rather for an effect of brilliance and well-being.

It is tempting to see a link between Bridget Reilly's originality and her having been spared much formal education. She lived with her mother, sister and an aunt before and during the war in a north Cornwall cottage with no mod cons. Her father, a businessman, served in the Far East and was missing for 18 months; his wages were paid at

first, but had to be paid back when he was presumed killed. Then he turned up in a Japanese camp on the infamous Burma-Siam railway line - and the wages were returned. He is still very much alive, aged 83.

It was a wonderfully exciting and makeshift life for a child, she recalls. Her aunt, who had been to art school, and her mother encouraged her to paint and draw. Education at the hands of local ladies was meagre but often fun, and a boarding school came as a nasty shock. When she was admitted, aged 15, to Cheltenham Ladies' College, mainly on a wave of sympathy for returning POWs, she was found to be four years behind her peers in schooling.

But she was allowed to concentrate on art, and progressed rapidly with the guidance of the art master, Colin Hayes, now at the Royal College of Art, and a Royal Academician; and did very well thereafter at the Goldsmiths School of Art thanks to a fine drawing teacher, Sam Rabin, if less well subsequently in the freer atmosphere of

the Royal College of Art. Only when she later met the painter Maurice de Sausmarez were her eyes properly opened, via the work of Seurat, to a surer handling of colour, hitherto her main weakness.

"I had ten years in the wilderness, lost confidence, fell into despair, all those things," she says. "She taught teenagers in a convent school, she taught at night schools and at Wandsworth Prison. Working with children I discovered that the greater the limitations, the more inventive the results. I would say: use reds only, and cover the area so that the reds touch each other. You would be amazed at the variety of the results." Then came two stretches as a sort of roving draughtsman with the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, which were good for her confidence, she learnt that one had to work through problems, and that she could work to order.

Only around 1960 did she find her way towards her distinctive style. "I started to paint movement in sequences, the principle of which was a regular

structure disturbed, and I saw these explosive visual energies emerging on the paper. That gave me the clue, and on that principle I worked for a long time." She might take a regular pattern of black circles on a white background, then gradually change them into ovals and their colour to a whitish grey. "One of the assumptions in this I have studied optics and am a fanatical mathematician. It's quite wrong. It's all done empirically."

There is still much trial and error as she and her two assistants work at huge tables in the three studios in her house on preliminary studies for the final paintings, seeking to produce those interactions and to discover the possibilities of colour. Of one thing she is convinced: "Abstract painting is in its infancy, and what I am doing is simply beginning to draw on the inherent possibilities of colour. What Siemsen painting was to the art of the High Renaissance, current abstract painting is to future developments. There will be great abstract colour painting in the future."

## Promenade Concerts Each for himself

Bream Consort  
St Luke's, Chelsea/  
Radio 3

This was a period piece, in more ways than one. James Savage's splendid church of St Luke, Chelsea, where John Goss and John Ireland were organists, is a welcome addition to Prom venues: it accommodates 900 people, though with evidently poor sightlines from the galleries, and has a fine nave 60 feet high (when it was built, in the 1920s, it was the first high stone-vaulted church to be attempted since the Reformation). The simple resonance of the church, however, would make it more suitable for a Prom of choral music - Tallis and Schütz in 1987 - than it was for the busy detail of the consort music performed by Julian Bream and friends.

No one has done more to alert us to the splendours of Elizabethan music than Bream, and years ago he gave pioneering performances of the consort pieces from Thomas Morley's famous collection of *Lessons*. More recently he decided to re-form his own Consort, and it has made several tours. But the principle on which it operates is still that of a couple of decades' ago: brilliant, unadorned performances by Bream himself in the centre of the ensemble, scattering away like some seventeenth-century Gull-in-the-Whirlwind divisions of Morley's arrangements, surrounded by sober, straight-faced accompaniments from the rest of the group.

Bream does encourage his collaborators to blossom - there were some nicely-turned exchanges with the treble viol of Catherine Macintosh in "Crims-tock", and the whole ensemble acquired a crisp rhythmic life in the "Monks' Alman" (a setting attributed to Byrd). But on the whole there is no improvisatory spirit perceptible here; phrasing is dull, articulation routine, and it is Bream's show.

So it was solo virtuosity that made the strongest impression: Bream's own multicoloured "Allison's Kneel", James Tyler's knees-up in Holborne's setting of "As I went to Walsingham" and at the end - not a moment too soon - the divertingly mellancholic re-imagining of the Morley song with Robert Turrill (for an encore) by Robert Turrill. There was little here which acknowledged the strides forward made in the three decades since Bream's early work; but more worrying, there was little that gave an impression of sparkling, animated musical interplay - I heard far more of that in *Jazz in Britain* in the car on my way home.

Nicholas Kenyon

RPO/Groves  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

No orchestra can be envied the task of playing a note of Sibelius so soon after the CSO's provocative and regenerating South Bank cycle under Simon Rattle. But advance programming is mercurial, and the Royal Philharmonic with Sir Charles Groves has put the test in Sibelius's Fourth Symphony on Monday night's Prom.

It was a reading which seemed to be being heard from somewhere behind Sibelius's shoulder, rather than by ears already quickened by the harmonic and structural disruption of the century it was reaching out to. With its gently shaped contours, its sense of almost affectionate resignation rather than bleakness, it became more a corporate valediction than an isolated quest.

At last, it would be nice to think that was the idea, rather than that, through lack of the score, being anything like deep enough under the skin, the players were simply prevented from reaching its stark, uncompromising heart. For too often even its own vision seemed curiously ill-defined: legato was too often flaccid where it should be tense, climaxes were laboriously rather than inexorably approached, entries and ensemble were blurred.

Earlier in the evening, Alfred Brendel had been the soloist in the equally enigmatic, constantly perplexing Fourth Piano Concerto of Beethoven. For Brendel on Monday seemed a fountain of ideas and impulses. The more rarely played second cadenza, less brooding in its insistence, more brittle and harmonically abrasive, was used in the first movement; and it seemed to emphasize the mercurial, almost teasing character of the reading as a whole. Even the slow movement, glassy, still and wide-eyed, could have been a *trompe-l'œil* - and too often one could have wished that the orchestra, with its reluctant and lack-lustre repertoire, had been just that.

Hilary Finch

● The guitarist John Williams is to be artistic director of South Bank Summer Music 1984. He succeeds Simon Rattle, and is the seventh to hold the post since its inception in 1968.

## Television

## Sonorous phrases with all too little meaning

Alan Greenberg originally intended *Land of Look Behind* to be a documentary about the funeral of Bob Marley, the reggae singer and songwriter who died of cancer in Miami aged 36 in 1981. In a short, tempestuous life, Marley became known as a Third World superstar, sold his records all around the world and became a legend in his native Jamaica.

To mark his passing, 100,000 people gathered there in the national arena to celebrate him in song and verse. Something may have happened to Mr Greenberg

at this vivid function, for the documentary got away from him and what we saw last night on Channel 4 was described as a documentary fantasy which seemed, and proved to be, a contradiction in terms.

Much of the film, which was excellently shot, was in semi-Creole and, though subtitles were provided, they were not generous enough to satisfy the curious about the Rastafarian belief, which Marley embraced, or even the reggae music he did so much to establish.

We began with a man chopping wild pineapple and plucking forth the toads that dwell therein. It seemed we might be in for an interesting nature lecture but he moved on to speak of the fearful forest of Look Behind which lurked near the village of Quick Step in which he lived and to plead for industry and aid for his people, which seemed very necessary.

This sally into development themes, however, was as short-lived as the nature lecture, and

soon we were into a bewildering world of dreadlocks, reggae music and much smoking of ganja, an intoxicating preparation made, I understand, from the female flowering tops of Indian hemp.

Marley himself was a prodigious smoker of marijuana, and a young man recorded his fear of smoking a hundred joints a day with some envy. Various singers and poets did their bits, giving us some sonorous phrases which reached for profundity but had not a lot of meaning. In short, Mr

Greenberg's film, which has apparently won an award, was one of those which shroud a multitude of images under the umbrella "impressionistic".

What it did not do was to explain the life of the Jamaican hinterland, its problems or its motivations. Reggae enthusiasts, among whom I am not numbered, may have been sent by it all but for the rest of us *Land of Look Behind* was surely as baffling at the end as at the beginning.

Dennis Hackett

## Theatre in Edinburgh

Women in Power  
Music Hall

John McGrath's "decent adaptation" of Aristophanes is the debut for General Gathering, a new Scottish branch of the 1968 company, devoted to producing classics of popular theatre: *Women in Parliament*, first staged about 1933 BC, has long been ripe for rediscovery by radical theatre, with its central idea, as wittily subversive as that in the better-known *Lysistrata*, of women disguised in their husbands' clothes packing the Athenian Assembly to vote themselves into power for a state where all goods will be held in common and men must provide sex on demand.

In this version, however, it gets wrenched aside in mid-course for a vigorous farcical attack on the one woman who is in power, currently, in Downing Street. Aristophanes' earlier play, *The Knights*, with its onslaught on the demagogue Cleon, provides the model and Mr McGrath has the defeated males stage this episode as anti-feminist propaganda - sensationally, since Frangora and her followers are too good socialist to provide any such threat.

Up to that point the show has been truly dire, slow and, despite every one's laboured efforts, unfunny. Those of us who stayed after the interval got some above-average Thatcher-beating with a genuinely Aristophanic flavour, puns on the name of Grantham and a missile-shaped phallus (topped with a union jack) on the

lady herself that made its own points about her femininity. Underneath all that, however, a predictable mixture of starchy utopianism with rallying cries to revolution is still there and it is the show's dominant impression. Thanasos Miltoschou's score often drops cliché Greekness in favour of routine rock-musical numbers (gustated by the deadening percussion crashes that regularly had Aristophanes' heroes rushing for the chamber pot, or a couple of rousing militant ensembles).

Frangora herself (Carol Kidd) croons her opening solo interminably into a mike, then yields her central role to the curiously named Kleonike in her handlebar moustache Elizabeth MacLennan makes a Paphos Villa of Athenian feminism, belatedly whose cardboard person the sensitivity and honesty of her performance as the skivvy wife in *Men Should Weep* keep breaking through.

After an hour or so as a boring husband revealingly grumbling that women have no tradition of responsibility, Kenneth Bryans earns his bit of fun as a neat transformation of Aristophanes' sausage vendor into a Social Democrat with Roy Jenkins's R, peddling a stall-full of adulterated trips that includes Mr Herd's guts. And, as a ladies' man who suddenly finds himself washing nappies, Jimmy Chisholm presses his feminine wiles into service as "our extremely powerful and sprightly Prime Minister" in the sort of portrait mask whose effectiveness has not diminished over 25 centuries.

Anthony Masters

## Music outside London

Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra  
Christ Church, Oxford

When the English Bach Festival slipped away from Oxford a few years ago to seek pastures new, Europe it left a gap in the professional musical life of the city (as distinct from its always flourishing amateur activities). "Music at Oxford", a series of 21 concerts which ended at the weekend, is hardly a parallel undertaking for it uses only one venue, Christ Church Cathedral, and has in its first season been confined to the summer, out-of-term months.

But its programmes, unsubsidized by grants, have been splendid, and, to judge from the packed cathedral on Sunday, it certainly fills a need. It was oddly appropriate that this final concert should have presented the new Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra under Ton Koopman, at the end of a British tour which has not included London; for it was back in 1975 that Koopman's earlier group, Musica Antiqua Amsterdam, appeared in the Bach Festival at Oxford with Philippe Herreweghe's Collegium Vocale of Ghent in a pair of unforgettable concerts.

Koopman's new ensemble is not just Dutch: like its rival, Frans Bruggen's Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century (which visits Edinburgh next week), its membership is international, and the string section, led by Monica Huggett, is almost entirely English. Thus the finest skills of continental wind players are matched with the facility - which continental colleagues envy us - of our string players. The results

in the Fourth Brandenburg were scintillating: Koopman pushed the music along with his white-hot first-best accents, but Huggett swept the phrases of the virtuosic first violin part - so often fired as if from a machine-gun - into convincing gestures, with pauses, rubato, light and shade. Meanwhile the two recorder players chirped lightly and brightly and the string rippling lifted their bows so as to give the finale's fugue theme, for example, a sense of graceful dance which was anything but relentless.

This combination of heady rhythmic impetus and deftness of attack also distinguished Bach's First Suite. I remember the impact of Ka Ebbinge's baroque oboe playing back in 1975, and time has only matured its richness of tone and poise of phrasing. A pity he did not play Telemann's Oboe d'Amore Concerto as originally advertised: Michel Henri's account was cloudy. Koopman's own solo concerto, Bach's A major for harpsichord, was practically inaudible from where I sat: the concert was given in the cathedral crossing, surrounded by audience on four sides. It was left to a couple of spirited numbers from Telemann's *Tafelmusik* to display real exhilaration of well-tuned, cohesive playing on period instruments.

Nicholas Kenyon

Theatre in the United States  
Clash of 'reality' and dramatic structure

Chaplin  
Music Center,  
Los Angeles

After one has reconciled oneself to the fact that Anthony Newley is as dissimilar to Charles Chaplin as John Barrymore was to Fatty Arbuckle, there are certain pleasures to be derived from *Chaplin*, a large-scale musical currently at the Music Center in Los Angeles before going for broke on Broadway. Chief among these are the set-designs by Douglas W. Schmidt, whose Victorian evocations on an adjustable raked stage achieve effects which are almost as subtle as they are spectacular. Most of the show's flashbacks take place in theatre-boxes on either side of a sumptuous nineteenth-century music-hall proscenium and, brilliantly abetted by Willa Kim's costumes and Ken Billington's lighting (a magical combination of projections and back-lighting behind transparent gauzes), *Chaplin* justifies that old saw about leaving the theatre whistling the scenery. It is the most fetching part of an uneven evening.

Newley and his collaborator Stanley Ralph Ross have, within the confines of the musical comedy format, attempted nothing less than a full-scale biography. The whole Chaplinesque saga is here - the Dickensian poverty, the derelict mother, the music-hall turns, the American tour of the Fred Karno troupe, the early collaboration with Stan Laurel (an uncannily accurate impersonation by Jim MacGeorge), the whirlwind silent screen success, the coming of talkies, the pre-marital and post-marital scandals, the political wrangles and charges of communist sympathy which eventually led to Swiss exile and an emotional let's-kiss-and-make-up reconciliation at the 1972 Academy Award ceremonies.

It is the kind of remorseless historical sequence which, in the context of a well-written book, whizzes the reader from the turn of the century to the modern day with all the velocity of the biographer's art. In a musical, however, one needs a much more selective, not to say fanciful, treatment of actuality. For instance, in the case of Gypsy, where Gypsy Rose Lee's rise to stardom is obliquely chronicled from the viewpoint of a pushy and frustrated showbiz mum. Here, the biographical facts are largely undigested and one is unaware of any interpretation being placed on events - other than that Chaplin was a genius and Newley is out to commemorate the fact.

The moments in which the Chaplin persona are actually evoked are few and far between, the most successful being a revival of the music-hall act in which Mack Sennett is supposed to have first spotted the comedian. This is a rough-and-tumble opera-burlesque (*Madame Butterfly* after Puccini) in which Newley effectively comports himself in the guise of the accident-prone drunk in whom one can already discern the tramp-figure of the early two-reelers. The other highpoints of the evening, a tenuous reproduction of the Lancashire Lads act, one of Chaplin's first stage appearances, and a kind of Pearly King-and-Queen tap-dance, are lively period reconstructions. Whenever the show feeds off the music-hall tradition, it comes astonishingly to life. As soon as it enters the realm of personal reflection and musical commentary on internal states, it dwindles into listless songs and stock conventions.

Chaplin's greatest invention was probably the twentieth-century idea of celebrity. Before him, no one was an internationally-



Newley's Chaplin with the uncannily accurate Stan Laurel of Jim MacGeorge

recognized superstar. He set the pattern for all the other Hollywood Greats - even to commingling personal scandal with creative achievement. What sustains *Chaplin* the musical is the fascination of its central subject and the fidelity with which history is told. What saps its energies is the aforementioned listless score, an uncertainty as to what kind of musical idiom is best suited to make its points and a fatal permissiveness towards letting "real life" dictate the curve of the dramatic structure.

The musical form thrives on diversions and digressions rather than solid chronological progression. Show-stoppers are all-most always arbitrary items that simply glory in song and dance no matter what their pertinence to the main design - as, for instance, in Gilbert and Sullivan. That happens once or twice during the show, but never sufficiently strongly to break the dogged continuity.

Newley is almost as interesting a phenomenon as Chaplin. A

child star in England who quickly made a success as a singer, writer and movie-maker, he falls into that now-familiar category of artist whose versatility is unquestionable but who is never quite the sum total of his parts. Musically, using a heavily pulsating vibrato, he always struck me as parodying the act of singing. As an actor, he had a certain rough cockney charm which effectively combined guile and opportunism. As a writer and purveyor of musical entertainments, he was always mired in sentimentality and, no doubt, his fascination for Chaplin arises because he identifies so strongly with the comedian's most sordid trait - a compulsive tendency to play for pathos.

To be fair to him, Newley's energy and creativity are precisely the stuff out of which commercial success is made and, as a kind of modern incarnation of Dion Boucicault, he has both visibility and a certain popular appeal. Unfortunately, in lacking a subject of such proportions, he

invites inevitable comparisons - and, no matter what faults we may find with Chaplin's cinematic persona, he was a consummate artist and one of the most dominant influences of his time. For a superannuated pop-singer with no apparent gift for visual comedy to try to essay Chaplin's comic genius is biting off not only more than he can chew but even more than he can comfortably wedge into his mouth.

Despite the recesses in its foundation, almost all of the show's topography, in a beautifully coordinated production by Michael Smuin, is visually beguiling and, although brilliant sets, costumes and lighting cannot make a show, they go a long way towards making this one consistently watchable in a marginal kind of way. But as for recreating the artistry of Chaplin and the complexity of the man, it is a little like trying to focus on a subject using a kaleidoscope rather than a telescope.

Charles Marowitz

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Red scare

Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West and chairman of the GLC arts committee, has written to ask Cecil Parkinson, as chairman of the Conservative Party, to protect violence. What excites Banks' concern is a remark attributed to Sir William Gibson Clark, the Tories' finance chairman, that if Livingstone succeeds in getting a stand at this year's Conservative Party conference "it would need police protection from some right-wing Tories". This, Banks claims, is an incitement to violence. "Imagine the headlines had a Labour Party representative made such a statement about Labour conference delegates", he says, reasonably enough. Livingstone is determined to organize a GLC stand while the Conservatives are in Blackpool, if not in the conference hall then in an adjacent hotel, whether or not Parkinson sends a reassuring reply.

### Stay cool

Sir Roy Strong must be glad the heat is off. At the very time that his attack on London theatres was launched in these pages — "human bodies cooped up together in an air-conditioned space" — visitors to his own new Henry Cole wing at the V & A were repeatedly getting stuck in the air-conditioned hall, an hour at a time in barely endurable temperatures, the only fix that could rescue them being to be called from Clapham. The pot may get away with calling the kettle black, but should avoid calling it hot.

● Sir Philip Goodhart's letter to The Times yesterday asked the most appropriate precious metal, mineral or gem to give his wife for their forthcoming 33rd wedding anniversary. Anxious to help, I looked up atomic number 33 in the periodic table of elements. It is arsenic.

### New view

Somali television burst upon an avid world at the weekend with its first transmissions. The fledgling service is a multinational effort, with Kuwaitis building the transmission station, Egyptians setting up the national network and Egyptians training personnel. Iraqis were to be involved, but in the event were too busy killing Iraqis.

BARRY FANTONI



"Perhaps he should apply for Peter Parker's job"

### Good in part

The most singular show in the Edinburgh Fringe is a one-man performance by the Icelandic actor Vidar Egg. Egg insists that he only plays before an audience of one. He "seeks to explore the actor-audience relationship" and can give his full attention to only one auditor at a time. All his performances have been sell-outs and the price of tickets, yesterday £9, increases by £1 a day. My PHSpy has not seen the show, because no review tickets are available. I do not think this has anything to do with the fact that on Circuit 33, a fairground beneath the Usher Hall, one of Egg's neighbours is a company called Omelette.

● Dick Turpin has just been appointed assistant manager of the National Westminster Bank's Louthbury branch. His extra-curricular activities, according to a notice sent to customers, stop at cricket, squash, golf, fishing and motor maintenance.

### Gullstones

Happily for the PHSausage joke contest, only fragments remain of The Sausage, a comedy written by the Greek dramatist Epicharmus about 500 BC. Otherwise age would not have deterred readers from sending me the whole text. I have doubts about the freshness of most of the offerings as it is. A. A. Smailes, for example, admits that his "breadcrumbs in battle-dress" dates back to ITMA, 1942. I award a sausage clock prize to Ian Wilkes for his, which is bad enough to be original. A German butcher's motto was to leave no turner unstoned, because he specialized in searbird sausages. Every morning he went to the beach to throw stones at the birds, and whenever he hit one would shout: "There's another turn for the Würst!"

An Oxfordshire underwear manufacturer claims that Britain is going bust in a big way. Inflation, Andrew Bryant alleges, has borne the British average bra size up from 34B to 36B, though West German women still "have the biggest breasts in Europe with an average bust size of 38 inches". Hoping to flesh this out with a handful of statistics, I rang Marks & Spencer and got that the average bra size is 34B and reports to the contrary are greatly exaggerated.

PHS

# Who will succeed the King?



Shimon: best chance of broad backing

Sharon: his support could be vital

Levy: opposition to his welfare largesse

Jerusalem When Menachem Begin confessed that he had heard nothing about the Beirut massacre last September until tuning in to the BBC 48 hours after it began, it should have been clear that something was seriously at fault either with his will or ability to govern.

But in the ensuing months, despite his growing mood of introverted despondency following the tragic death of his wife, the message somehow failed to sink into Israel's national psyche. As a result, this week's undignified and agonizing drawn-out resignation has come as a profound political shock.

As the first news began to travel from table to table in the cafes of Jerusalem's main shopping mall, the customers looked stunned with disbelief. "We must tell him not to go. He is our father. We cannot live without him," shouted one man.

Later, hundreds of distraught people gathered outside his official residence chanting "Begin, King of Israel". Although accepting that their efforts would be in vain, they seemed unable to think how else to react.

The main cause of the intensity of the personal reaction — just as strong among those delighted by the departure of Israel's most hawkish prime minister — is the effortless fashion in which Mr Begin has totally dominated the political stage since coming to power in 1977.

Even during his recent decline, he has stood head and shoulders not only above those in his party, but also above any politician whom the main Labour opposition has been able to put up — especially its leader, the distinctly uncharismatic Shimon Peres. Shown in the latest opinion poll to be supported as Labour's candidate for prime minister by a derisive 6 per cent of the population.

Yitzhak Shamir, now tipped as Mr Begin's likely successor, is even lower down. At the age of 67,

It is precisely because of Mr Begin's domination of the ruling Likud coalition and his reluctance to designate an heir apparent to lead his own right-wing Meretz party that his sudden departure will pose such problems for the government.

As the *Jerusalem Post* put it bluntly, "It will be the test of whether the Likud does have a life after Menachem Begin, or whether it is simply a function of his political will".

According to a poll earlier this month, Mr Begin was preferred as Likud prime minister by 42.1 per cent of the public compared with only 8.7 per cent for the runner-up, the former Defence Minister, Ezer Weizman, who has been in self-imposed political exile at his villa in Caesarea since leaving the Cabinet in 1980. Behind him was Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister, and then David Levy, the able, Sephardi Deputy Prime Minister, who scored 3.1 per cent.

Yitzhak Shamir, now tipped as Mr Begin's likely successor, is even lower down. At the age of 67,

Mr Shamir was being described by his backers as the stop-gap candidate most able to secure broad support in party forums. A former member of the Mossad secret service and a founder of the Stern Gang, the most ruthless pre-state Jewish terrorist group, he was once detained by the British. Since replacing Moshe Dayan as Foreign Minister he has performed solidly but without noticeable impact.

Mr Shamir has none of Mr Begin's flair for communication and little of his popular following. But he could attract the widest support just because he is not seen as a long-term leader.

The timing of Mr Begin's departure has ruled out both Mr Arens (regarded as President Reagan's preferred candidate) and Mr Weizman as immediate hopefuls because neither is a member of the Knesset.

The present dire state of the economy appears to have destroyed the leadership chances of Yoram Aridor, the once influential Finance Minister, while the only other possible contender, Ariel Sharon, is still recovering from the near lethal

political blow dealt by the inquiry commission into the Beirut massacre. This has left him relegated to the sidelines as Minister without Portfolio, but his street following could make him an important kingmaker.

This would leave Mr Shamir and Mr Levy — at the age of 43, the darling of the underprivileged Sephardi community and the father of 11 children — to fight it out. Although Mr Levy has far greater grassroots support, it was argued yesterday that he could face vigorous opposition from the Liberal Party, the second largest group in the Likud because of his support for free-spending social and welfare policies. Apart from sharing a similar hawkish approach to future Israeli control of the occupied West Bank, Mr Shamir and Mr Levy both held early jobs as building labourers and both are reported to have gone to the same language tutor to brush up their English.

The succession battle is expected to be tough and quite unlike the almost gentlemanly struggle behind closed doors while Mr Begin was still in power. On the troubled economic front, where inflation is now running at 130 per cent, Mr Begin's eventual successor will face a supreme test of his political skills, as he will in resolving the future of the costly involvement in Lebanon.

Although the future is uncertain, on the key question of Israel's dominance over the 2,200 square miles of the occupied West Bank, it appeared that Mr Begin was close to securing the grandiose wish which he declared two years ago when asked how he would like to be remembered by history. "As the man who set the borders of Eretz Israel (the Biblical land of Israel) for all eternity," he replied.

Christopher Walker

## If the sun has to set, don't stand in the way

Our Island Story — a History of Britain for Boys and Girls and Our Empire Story are nice, big fat books, well written, in good print and full of humane patriotism. Though first published at the turn of the century, they are still used to introduce children to history, certainly in my family.

The author, H. E. Marshall, refers to Britain in a preface as "the little island in the West". Such ironic understatement relies on centuries of success and security for its effort.

The last thing we have ever been is a little island. True, today some would like to cut us down to size, and edge us eastwards (into the Baltic?), sans Europe, sans defence, sans Nato, sans pretty well everything. The electorate has given its verdict on the isolationist option. But insular thinking takes many forms and is not confined to the left.

The last edition of *Our Island Story* finishes after the Second World War, before decolonization. Mercifully, the penitential breast-beating is at last subsiding.

But it is too soon for serenity, both historically and because we still have three major problems — three islands, as it happens — to deal with the Falklands, Hongkong, and (stretching the point to a peninsula), Gibraltar.

Having disposed of continents, it would be a pity to stumble over these smaller entities and to finish the course bruised, dusty and disheartened. It is vital to take a non-insular view of the last islands of empire. And that means playing abroad the same burning sense of priorities as we are, at last, at home.

Not for the first time, wet/dry manichaeism distorts the debate. If it is dry (and in my view right) to insist with relentless realism on rectifying our economic shortcomings, can it be wet to suggest that we should keep a stern eye on what really matters overseas? The Atlantic Alliance, the construction of Europe, the Commonwealth, and the urgent exigencies of East/West diplomacy are neither new nor exclusive concerns. But like Victorian values, they have a perennial force of compulsion and attraction. By comparison, the Falklands, Hongkong and even Gibraltar seem a little peripheral in relation to priorities and resources (especially if Spain enters the Nato military structure). To concentrate on them

to the exclusion of the broader picture is to risk analogy with the peevish provincialism which is the hallmark of the left.

Clearly, we shall never get far on the big issues if we lack principle or purpose on the small. But symbols must not outgrow substance. Islands are very symbolic, but are often appended to large countries or continents. "Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main," is the less quoted corollary of "No man is an island".

Hongkong symbolizes much that is best in the British colonial record (once we draw a veil over how we came by it). Theoretically, part of it is ours in perpetuity, though again the substance intrudes, China being a fairly substantial sort of place. We have clear responsibilities towards Hongkong. I lived there for two years and admire the people as much as anyone. But it would be dangerously Quixotic to inflate our obligations beyond our ultimate ability to guarantee in practice the welfare of its inhabitants.

Give realism and a sense of proportion, there is no reason why we should not reach a settlement combining British interests, rights and duties with Chinese intentions. Hongkong will eat deeply into our diplomatic reserves. The Falklands will swallow another big slice, not to mention the troops and the cash. What more can usefully be said at this stage? It is always worth recalling that it was Mrs Thatcher herself who had the courage to put less-back to the House of Commons in 1980. It was right to do so: it was right to fight, and it is right to sign now — which does not preclude some sober reflection on the long-term costs and on possible solutions. Meanwhile, beyond the Falklands, looms a whole continent with all its agonies and opportunities.

Gibraltar, too, is appended to a country of consequence. There is no need to rehearse our obligations to the people of the colony. What does need emphasis are our future relations with Madrid during this sensitive phase of its absorption into the western democratic camp. One way to avoid a choice between our responsibilities towards Gibraltar and a confrontation with renaissance Spain is not to fix our sights unrealistically high in matters concerning the Rock.

To sustain friendships and to wear down animosities overseas, you need persistence and a sense of priorities — just as you do to build up business confidence or erode inflation. And internationally, as at home, sacrifices and distasteful compromises are sometimes unavoidable in pursuit of the greater good.

Our three "island" problems are perplexing and expensive, but



The style of governments is indivisible. Our revolution of common sense at home must be applied overseas. The parallels are remorseless. Abroad, sound money means a sound Europe, a sound Atlantic, a fleet of foot, was laid by just three apples. So we face something of a challenge. But we have the leadership and the professionalism to ensure that this chapter of *Our Island Story* finishes with neither a bang nor whimper, but with a diplomatic grace note.

George Walden

The author is Conservative MP for Buckingham and a former private secretary to Lord Carrington.

## Front-line Europe, not just Brixton

Ten young Turks robbing old people in Berlin called it "doing a granny". Most of them played truant and needed money for Coca-Cola, hamburgers, doner kebab and pinball machines.

In Lyon, France, there was an outbreak of crime among young immigrants who took part in "rodeos" in stolen cars.

In Sweden, foreigners who make up 5 per cent of the population represent more than 16 per cent of people suspected by the police of committing a crime.

Associating crime with immigrants or their children is common not only to Brixton but to much of Western Europe. And the pressures on police dealing with ethnic minorities in run-down inner cities are remarkably similar everywhere.

That is why police chiefs, criminologists and government officials from Western European countries got together yesterday for the first time at a colloquium at Wolfson College, Cambridge, organized in cooperation with the Cranfield Institute of Technology in Bedfordshire. They are searching for new ideas with which to tackle the effects of the post-war immigration on which the prosperity of Western Europe has been built.

Superintendent Jos Molendijk, in charge of policing a vice area in

Amsterdam, says: "It is our firm conviction that in the past five years in cities like Copenhagen, London, Paris and Amsterdam, some 40-odd disturbances have been prevented by local policemen's private initiatives."

In police eyes, the danger possibilities range upwards on a seismic scale from petty crime and violence to parts of European cities going up in flames.

From Amsterdam, gangs of South Americans migrate seasonally, following tourists to the sun. Young male prostitutes and robbers came north originally from the Mediterranean in search of work. They lost their jobs or never had any. Twenty-five per cent of all drug addicts in Amsterdam are of Surinamese origin.

Drugs are an easy source of income for some people of immigrant origin, who bring to Europe echoes of conflict back home. Joachim Jager, of the Police Academy in Hiltrup, West Germany, says that at present charges are pending against 300 Kurds for drug smuggling and trafficking, some of the money being used to finance the Kurds' fight for independence.

Neo-Nazi groups stir up hatred and football hooligans, as in Britain, take out their aggression on ethnic minorities.

André Craen, chief of police in the Belgian city of Genk, speaks of the pressures on ethnic minorities living in an "alien" society and compares present tensions with those in Germany in the 1930s.

What should the police do? Sometimes turn a blind eye during a football match between Ajax and FC Utrecht, young Utrecht fans displayed a banner with a racist text. The police came in for criticism when they did not interfere. But so did the racist youths. A group of Utrecht fans was so affected that they made public apologies.

The conference confirms that the causes of crime are social and economic and that ethnic minorities suffer from the bad effects of both. No single agency, including the police, working by itself, can eradicate it.

The effort in Britain to win community support is echoed in other European countries where police work with other agencies in tackling social ills and anticipating trouble. In Genk, social workers are employed to work with police. In France, an inter-agency campaign to help young people to find jobs, provide them with adventure courses and help them to learn a trade, is thought to have had an effect.

No-one should be surprised that police throughout Europe are wor-

ried about race problems; and many who have seen them at first hand will know that the methods they use are not necessarily the same as those they talk about. Nevertheless, whatever they do in the streets, the powerful impression left by the papers is that social causes of crime require social action.

Professor John Brown, of Cranfield, says: "The relationship is much more between crime and multiple disadvantage than the colour of the skin. We ought to be looking at race in the context of disadvantage rather than disadvantage in the context of race."

No one makes that point more clearly than Colin Guest, an assistant governor in the prison service doing research at Cranfield. He says in a paper: "Although the available official population statistics reveal that in London and the South-East, young black males in the region of two to one, a survey of almost 5,000 young offenders in custody in London and the South-East between 1981 and 1983 showed that within penal establishments, young Asians were outnumbered by young blacks by a ratio of 22 to one."

Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

## Beware Japanese bearing jobs

In Japan, so legend has it, age prevails. We in the West are inclined to think that a business with an octogenarian chairman needs a boardroom revolution. In Japan, so we are told, the weight attached to a chairman's whims grows with the passing of his eightieth birthday.

So the news from Nissan comes as a considerable shock. Ever since the scheme for building Nissan cars in Britain was first mooted all those years ago, I have put my faith in its venerable chairman, Katsuo Kawamura, who by all accounts was dead opposed. So was I, and I have not changed my mind. But now we read that Mr Kawamura has changed his mind, it looks as though Nissan is on its way at last.

Why, then, look a gift-horse in the mouth? Five thousand jobs, probably in an unemployment blackspot, and tens of thousands in component factories and the like; access to Japanese technology, management skills and harmonious industrial relations: what could be wrong with that? Quite simply that it is not a gift-horse at all. We buy it, and it is going to be a poor bargain.

We do not know the exact price tag. But after allowing for automatic regional development grants, with a handsome dollop of "selective assistance" from the Department of Industry on top, we are unlikely to see much change out of £150m.

In return, as we were again assured in March, Nissan's "objective" would be to produce at 80 per cent local content, after a build-up from 60 per cent. Well, we shall see. There have been some circumstantial sounding reports of Nissan's worries about the quality of UK components. Suppose they arrive, set up shop and in due course reveal that, alas, they cannot find precisely what they need, and will have to continue importing components from Japan? Does the Department of Industry demand our money back and close the factory? As Eliza Doolittle remarked, "Not bloody likely!"

Then there is the matter of where Nissan UK products will be sold. I suggested once that the French, and probably the Italians, would turn British-assembled Nissans back at the ports, only to be told that that would be against EEC rules. Here again, we shall see. But in the light of France's latest move against the BL/Honda Accord, it would be a brave man who put his faith in the Rome Treaty to hold the door open

to Nissan. The French have long regarded us as Japan's Trojan horse in Europe, and Nissan is the sort of development they would not accept.

Last, but by no means least, there is the British domestic car industry. We have pumped more than £1,000m into BL and hundreds of millions more into Rootes/Chrysler/Talbot — where the Department of Industry is just now trying to stop Peugeot doing anything nasty at Ryton. On top of that we have handed over many tens of millions to persuade Ford to go — no thought to its subsequent regret — to Halewood, and more recently to Bridgend.

Subsidizing rival concerns with taxpayers' money has always struck me as a game at best. At least BL is as British as they come, while Ford and Chrysler/Talbot have done a lot of real manufacturing here. Bridging Nissan to set up a competing plant sounds daft.

This is not an argument against overseas investment or in favour of protection. France's much publicized wheeze of channelling all Japanese vehicles through Polaris is a classic case of cutting off the nose to spite the face. Since the French do not make vehicles, the only possible beneficiaries are the Germans and the Dutch, and the only possible sufferers the French consumers, who have to pay more.

If Nissan wished to set up shop here at its own expense, good luck to it. Paying Nissan to do so is a different matter altogether. When Patrick Jenkin told the Japanese a few months ago that if they refused to accept a container-load of sovereigns for a UK factory then we would not let them sell their cars to us at all, they must have wondered if they had heard right.

Perhaps it may not happen. Perhaps the excellent Mr Kawamura will change his mind again. Perhaps the outburst by Mr Ichiro Shioji of the Nissan trade union will scare the board. If so we shall be deeply in their debt, although I don't suppose it will be seen that way. The new jobs are what it's all about and it is part of the ethos of the Department of Industry — not to mention the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland offices — that new jobs in place of those already in existence are a snip. After all, it is not their money they are bargaining with.

The author was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

James Curran

## Bosses who keep a little list

For many years Roy Medvedev, one of Russia's leading historians, has been unable to get a teaching job. He has joined the shadowy group of non-persons in the Soviet Union who cannot get employment in their chosen field because they write and say things deemed to be subversive.

His plight is little different from that of a growing number of non-persons in Britain blacklisted because of their political views. Perhaps the best known is Derek Robinson, a kindly and impressive working-class intellectual who for many years was the senior convener at BL's Longbridge plant. The crime for which he was dismissed without any written or verbal warning — was the joint authorship of a thoughtful pamphlet, *The Edwards Plan and Your Job*, that advocated an expansionist strategy for the company he worked for. It contained, however, a brief passage which management held to be unacceptable. "In other industries like UCL (Upper Clyde Shipbuilders), work-in and occupations have been necessary to prevent closures. If necessary, we shall have to do the same."

As a free-born Englishman, Robinson had every right to express a point of view different from that of management, including citing the example of what the Upper Clyde shipworkers had done to defend their jobs. Yet he has never worked again in the car industry. As a known communist militant, he never will.

But the way that non-persons are created in Britain is generally less conspicuous. In the past 10 years many companies have adopted increasingly formalized procedures for vetting job applicants in a way that systematically screens out well-known militants.

The Institute of Directors is an enthusiastic advocate of this form of ideological policing. "Our advice," Wendy Hutton, the institute's press officer, told me, "is to step up vetting procedures and look out for trouble-makers who apply for jobs. They have to be stopped."

The way this has been done varies between different companies (with some still rightly refusing to operate a system of political screening). But documents shown to me suggest that the misuse of references to demand and obtain information about workers' political leanings and union commitments has become depressingly widespread in the past decade, even in nationalized industries. For example, Roy Roebuck, works manager of a BSC subsidiary at Greenwicks, asked the personnel manager at BSC's Ebbw Vale works: "I would also be interested to learn whether the applicant mentioned below has a background of political involvement."

In some companies this ideological vetting takes the form of blackballing union negotiators who are not compliant. "Disruptive attitudes when acting as shop steward," would you re-employ? No," reads one chilling assessment from the Holiday group.

In some companies this ideological vetting takes the form of blackballing union negotiators who are not compliant. "Disruptive attitudes when acting as shop steward," would you re-employ? No," reads one chilling assessment from the Holiday group.

An increasingly used method of vetting job applicants is to check them with the Economic League, an avowedly right-wing intelligence agency funded by leading corporations which keeps a national dossier on union and left-wing activists. Those using its services to exclude militants in the past have ranged from Shell to relatively small companies such as the Great Southern Cemetery and Crematorium Group, which sent out a curt directive in January 1978 that all job applicants were to be asked with the league and "if there is the slightest suggestion of any information held against the proposed employee from this source you do not engage same."

Much of this blackballing has been conducted covertly, even shame-facedly. The importance of the Cowley "mole" case earlier this month is that it was used by much of the media to legitimize the political vetting of employees. The incident itself — the dismissal of 13 car workers — links a right-wing nationalist organization with a total membership list little larger than that of my local tennis club — did not justify the massive and sustained coverage given to it, even in the silly season. But it conformed to the populist, right-wing view that strikes are mainly caused by unrepresentative troublemakers who take advantage of their easily duped fellow workers. This view leads to the conclusion that dissidents need to be persecuted to protect the majority.

As the *News of the World* put it, "mole-hunting (and make no mistake, the red variety are not cuddly, furry creatures) is not a sport in Britain. It is a necessity". The same message was put differently but, in a way, more strongly, by a paper read by many personnel managers. "The need for care in the recruitment of labour," warned the *Daily Telegraph*, "cannot be overstated."

Fleet Street's grand inquisitors are now busy for more blood and, in some cases, extending the definition of "moles" to include, as Bruce Kemple of the *Sun* put it, "left-wing disruptives".

In a guide to "10 ways to ferret out a red mole" he listed such "give-away clues" as a liking for Channel 4, being "anti-American", reading "long in-depth articles about the state of the war in Nicaragua".

Such articles would be merely funny if they did not have a darker side. Men and women should not be denied jobs which have no national security significance because of their political views. And the growing tendency ideologically to vet applicants for manual clerical jobs (in a way that would rightly produce a howl of outrage if extended to the middle-class professions) represents an ominous shift towards Soviet-style ideological policing. Liberty, as George Orwell powerfully argued, means allowing people freely to say things you do not want to hear. It is a definition of freedom worth defending, as we move towards 1984.

The author is editor of *New Socialist*.





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## CAN LEBANON EXIST?

There is a sort of parallel between the internal situation of the Israeli government and the problem it faces in Lebanon. Mr Begin has made up his mind to withdraw from the political arena, and his government has made up its mind to withdraw from the Chouf. Both decisions reflect a mixture of sheer weariness and the knowledge that to stay on involves considerable risks, with little to be positively achieved. Yet both have caused consternation among friends and allies, because of the vacuum they threaten to leave. The implementation of both was postponed yesterday "for a few days" in response to pressure from these friends and allies. Yet in neither case is it at all obvious that the problems will be solved any more easily during the period of postponement than they would be once the decisions have been taken.

The two crises are not of the same order, however. Israel's internal crisis is a "normal" crisis, of the sort that might attend a change of leadership in any country. One man has dominated the political scene for six years. Another will somehow be found, or, at most, the opposition may come to power. Decisions will be taken, if not always the right ones, and in any event the state will carry on.

No such luxury for Lebanon, whose very existence is increasingly in question - a question of which what Israel does or does not do in the Chouf is only one small part. And the existence or non-existence of the Lebanese state, though it most immediately concerns the Lebanese themselves, has become a matter of considerable concern to many others. Even we in Britain are involved in it, as the shots fired at our soldiers in Beirut yesterday painfully remind us. This time they escaped unhurt, luckier than their French and American

colleagues. But it would be wrong to assume that their lives are not in danger. The way things are going in Lebanon now, there will be a next time, and a time after that.

Not that anyone supposed, when the decision was taken to contribute ninety-seven Dragoon Guards to the multinational force in Lebanon, that they were not going to be in any danger. If the moment comes when the multinational force is in no danger, that may well be the moment when it can and should be brought home.

Short of that, what should determine the maintenance or removal of the multinational force is not the degree of danger it is in but whether it is achieving the objects for which it was sent there. These objects were essentially two: to assist in the restoration of the authority of the Lebanese state throughout Lebanese territory, and to ensure the safety of civilians while that was being done.

The hope then was that successive infringements of Lebanese sovereignty by foreign forces (Palestinian, Syrian, Israeli - each of them initially welcomed as allies by one or more Lebanese parties) had at last brought about both a Lebanese national consensus and the opportunity to put it into effect. "There have been three nation-builders of Lebanon," as one European observer put it, "and their names are Arafat, Assad and Sharon."

The bulk of the Palestinian forces had gone. The Lebanese Christians were as anxious to see their Israeli "liberators" go home as were the Lebanese Muslims to be rid of their Syrian "protectors", and Syria and Israel were both thought to be willing to go provided the other went too. Even Bashir Gemayel, formerly an extreme partisan leader, had been close, by the time of his death, to acceptance as a focus of

national unity. His brother Amin, always the moderate within the Phalangist leadership, seemed even better equipped for that role. With help from his Western friends, it seemed, he had a good chance of success.

Alas, those hopes seem vain now. They have been thwarted in part by Syria's refusal to withdraw but also, crucially, by the fact that there are still significant Lebanese forces willing to throw in their lot with Syria rather than with the Lebanese state in its present form. Those forces do not hail only from the part of the country occupied by Syria, where they would have little choice, but from the Israeli-occupied south and from the crumbling shantytowns of southern Beirut where, unfortunately, the imposition of Lebanese government authority has not brought respect for the institutions behind it. Rather the reverse.

Perhaps precisely because he lacked his brother's record as a tough leader of the Christian side in the civil war, President Amin Gemayel has not confronted the sectarian elements in his own camp with the firmness that was necessary if his authority was to be accepted among Druzes and Muslims - particularly Shiite Muslims, Lebanon's largest and most underprivileged community - as well. His state and his army have behaved, as our Middle East correspondent recorded in his article yesterday, too much like a Phalangist state and army, not enough like institutions belonging to all the Lebanese.

Attempts to remedy this are still going on, and the powers contributing to the multinational force should not incur responsibility for their failure by withdrawing abruptly or prematurely. But if it proves that there is in fact no Lebanese national consensus, the premise on which the multinational force is based will become invalid.

## THE POLYTECHNICS' OPEN DOOR

The proportion of 18-year-olds with Advanced Level passes who then proceed further up the educational ladder to attend university or college has recently picked up. Indeed at the current 88 per cent, the "qualified participation rate" is touching the record levels of the 1960s. Then, of course, higher education was fashionable; our national pride was bound up in the expansion of academic opportunity; public regard for both red bricks and polytechnics was high.

Glamour has now faded. There is doubt whether a high participation rate should be a cause for celebration or concern. Celebration should surely be muted: higher education beckons more and more 18-year-old school leavers when the alternative is of uncertain employment or even joblessness. For Mrs Thatcher's Government concern has been predominant, with both treasury and education ministers preoccupied (as well they might be) by a bulge of adolescent numbers working through the sixth forms and colleges at a time of supposed expenditure restraint.

The Government, having laid aside many issues of academic reform left over from that hurried 1960s expansion, has sought to cut higher education spending without necessarily incurring the odium of turning away qualified students. The Department of Education has been attempting to reduce the unit cost of educating students in all the institutions but, finding the downward drift of cost more difficult to attain in the universities, has apparently counteracted a marked rise in the

number of students being enrolled (hence a cheaper unit cost) in advanced education outside them. "Apparently" is a necessary qualification. In the tortuous world of polytechnic finance - polytechnics being still, despite their size and academic sophistication, creatures of councils - central government rarely directly disposes. Intended or not there has been a striking reduction in the past three years from £2,670 to £1,960 in the cost of educating a student on those polytechnic courses which do not involve extensive laboratory work. The same figure for the universities has barely dropped.

This policy has had much to commend it. Read any report of the Chief Inspector of Audit up till 1981 and it is difficult to resist the conclusion that many polytechnics had costs inflated by under-used buildings and under-occupied staffs. Expanding student numbers in the polytechnics has, in theory, often cost only the marginal amount of the student government grants for tuition and accommodation, from which strict public accounting ought to deduct the total of unemployment or social security payments saved.

But in practice the marginal cost may also have involved a reduction in academic quality. The University Grants Committee has insisted that student intake must be reduced in line with spending cuts in order to protect teaching and - the university function often forgotten by civil servants and ministers - research. Has the time now come when polytechnic directors ought also to curb their appetite for student numbers?

The answer supplied yesterday by the officers of the National

Advisory Body for local authority higher education was yes - that the system of polytechnics and colleges must grapple with the qualitative issues posed by the Government's expenditure plans and reduce student intake accordingly. The body (one of the more unwieldy quangos created in Mrs Thatcher's time) is now to discuss a set of proposals for financing courses and student enrolment, the aim of which is to preserve the quality of the academic and vocational courses by pruning here and closing there. As the UGC discovered in 1981, this strategy causes much pain to the institutions affected; but far better surgery than progressive deterioration.

The National Advisory Body is presenting the Government with the fruits of its overall education spending policy. It is saying - without discussion of the merits of looking education for savings - that contraction can be managed. But now there has also to be faced a politically distasteful result: slamming the college door in the face of qualified applicants who, turned away, may face only unemployment.

So far the elasticity provided by the slack management of the polytechnics and colleges in the 1970s has eased the consequences of the spending policy for the would-be students. The Government is now being told that from 1984-85 that let-out must end. The choices are: more students and a reduction in quality or a stabilized student enrolment (cutting the participation rate) while keeping standards up. Being a polite quango a third option is not mentioned. That is to review the policy for higher education in its entirety.

## MR MEACHER'S NUCLEAR BOMBSHELL

Mr Michael Meacher, who is regarded as doing duty for Mr Tony Benn in this round of Labour Party elections, has elaborated his subversive thoughts about the democratic centralism which the far left of the party uses as its model. He was talking about security policy and unilateral nuclear disarmament. He did not believe Labour could win an election unless it had majority support for its defence policy, so crucial is the issue of security. But "even if it did win, but without clear evidence of majority public support for unilateral renunciation of Polaris, I believe that an explicit test of public opinion, if necessary by a referendum, should be carried out before an absolutely fundamental decision of this kind was implemented".

He was not, he hastened to add, knocking conference decisions. He was not in any way changing or seeking to modify or reverse conference policy, which in this matter he strongly

supported and would continue to speak to with conviction. "All I am doing is seeking moral authority to implement it." All he is doing is shooting holes in democratic centralism.

The model up to now has been perfectly simple. The party conference, as the democratically convened and sovereign organ of the party, decides policy. The policy is written into the manifesto. The party candidates, elected to power by the people, receive a mandate to implement the policies in the manifesto. They are authorized by the voters to do so, and are under a duty to the party conference to do so.

Mr Meacher sabotages the edifice twice. First he says there is no simple transformation of manifesto into mandate. If it appears (to whom? Dr Gallup?) that a fundamentally important section of the manifesto does not, taken in isolation, have majority support, a further test

of its acceptability is called for before it should be proceeded with. Second he says that a policy decision of conference is not in all cases moral authority enough for a Labour government to proceed to implement it. It needs further processing. That is to claim even more independence from the conference than orthodox parliamentarians of the Labour party are wont to claim. They claim latitude on the timing and order of priority of conference decisions that achieve the rank of party policy. Mr Meacher seeks moral authority from some other quarter before putting them on the agenda of government at all.

Those who prefer the parliamentary to the party model of political legitimacy will welcome Mr Meacher's own goal - though they may look askance at the use of the referendum to decide an issue of defence policy. But what of those who counted him a true party man of the left? Back to the dream ticket?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Political implications of going private

From Dr Craig R. Pickering

Sir, Your leading articles of August 17 and 22, and other recent articles in your newspaper, air the major economic implications of privatisation. But they do not bring out as fully as they might the political implications of that policy.

It is right to mention, as these articles do, the effect on the relations between senior managers of privatised industries and ministers. But there are other political points to be made. For privatisation and other methods of reorganising the public sector can be seen as a way of redistributing power and influence from the state to citizens.

Such political questions as our right to use the media of communication as we think fit and the state's freedom to tax us are inherent in the fact that certain industries are nationalised or run by the Government itself. By privatising them, the Government may shift the balance of influence away from itself towards the citizens. To that extent, privatisation is a political as well as an economic and financial act.

Such political considerations need to be taken into account, particularly when looking at proposals for a regulated rather than a nationalised industry. The citizen may think that he or she will enjoy no increase in influence or power over the provision of goods and services from such an industry, or anything else it affects. One set of masters will simply have been exchanged for another.

The probability that the new set will have different views, to an extent, on how the industry should operate, from the old is not enough, in political terms, to justify reorganising the industry. Democratic theorists of various persuasions might propose new institutional constraints on the industries and the regulatory bodies. The latter might, for example, be elected, rather than, as politicians usually propose, nominated.

Such constraints might hamper the commercial operations of the industry in question. Such pessimism seems premature, however, especially when set against the importance of such industries in our political and economic life.

Much work remains to be done before answers to the questions I

have raised, and others on similar lines, can be provided in the case of particular industries. But it does seem to me that any account of privatisation that concentrates on the economic dimensions at the expense of the political runs the risk of missing half the story. The history of nationalised industry is such an approach.

Yours sincerely,  
CRAIG R. PICKERING,  
Institute of Public Sector Management,  
London Business School,  
Sussex Place,  
Regent's Park, NW1,  
August 26.

From Mr Ewen C. Watson

Sir, Your leader (August 17) extols the economic and political arguments for the privatisation of state assets in competitive parts of the economy, in principle, without noting the complications of the real world.

The article refers to resource misallocation (inefficient activities taking up resources which could be employed for more worthwhile activities) without giving due consideration to the effects of a depressed economy.

Rather than being redeployed to worthwhile activities, the resources of land and machinery would dilapidate, human resources would add to the potential pool of labour, while capital would be swallowed up in Government expenditure.

However, in a thriving economy, with a shortage of resources (land, labour and capital), the transfer of state assets to private hands would release resources to enterprising activities.

Therefore, in the present economic circumstances the social, political and economic costs of privatisation need to be weighed carefully.

An imprudent sale of state assets may further depress an economy if a large proportion of resources are excess to requirements. One must privatize, only on prosperous days.

Yours faithfully,  
EWEN C. WATSON,  
89 Dunstons Crescent,  
Workshop,  
Nottinghamshire,  
August 18.

### Inferno in a green and pleasant land

From Mr James Mitchell

Sir, The landscape stretching northwards up the Avon valley to Marlborough, westwards over Stonehenge and southwards again to Salisbury from Beacon Hill above Amesbury can make one of England's most enchanting summer views.

Returning home from holiday along the A303 last Friday afternoon that magic was dispelled by a vision of desolation.

Lowering behind a thunderbank of cloud a blood-red sun filtered down over Stonehenge as one imagines a spent nuclear fireball in the aftermath of a holocaust. Under the clouds field after field in the landscape was blackened or was still blazing and belching black smoke all across the bowl of this most Arcadian of English valleys. Hardly a hedge or a tree, it seemed, could have survived the wrath of the flames in that inferno without singing, scorching or burning - and many haven't.

And the wildlife. Not a bird was singing, not a butterfly was about when I reached home through the smog. How many creatures had died, I wonder, in the fields that day?

No fisherman could fish on the river on Friday evening. The walkers in the valley could not walk with any pleasure. Visitors to England's most famous monument wasted their journeys.

Today the fires started again. Everyone admires our farmers for having achieved so much in improving this country's agricultural productivity since the war. But, equally, no industry would be allowed to get away with the danger, fifth and heartbreak which the farmers now expect by right to be allowed to inflict on this lovely English countryside every year through strawburning.

Gone are the days when a bonfire in the country was a joy and a rickfire a sensation. Large-scale strawburning is a phenomenon of the new economic prairie farming, but there have to be reasonable restraints even on the most sensible of agricultural reforms.

Many local people here, I believe, feel that the farmers, after refusing repeated requests to exercise adequate controls on strawburning, will have now to be respectfully obliged by law to stop the pollution

of the countryside - just as, in the end, industrialists had to be obliged by law to desist from poisoning our cities.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES MITCHELL,  
Taslet,  
Wilsford-cum-Lake,  
Salisbury,  
Wiltshire,  
August 29.

### Bracken spraying

From Mr J. E. B. Wells

Sir, May I make one or two comments on Lady Sayer's rather emotively worded letter of August 25, with references to "toxic spraying", calling to mind the defoliation programme in Vietnam, and to the public being "chased off" Haynes Down.

Firstly, the land she writes about is not open common but is privately owned and wholly enclosed by stone walls though it is subject to common grazing rights and it is traversed by a road and a bridleway, with gates at each end.

Principally, though, does Lady Sayer realise that spreading bracken is the main enemy of the amenity societies are so rightly concerned about, together with bilberries and other interesting species? Bracken spraying will not destroy these because they cannot co-exist with bracken.

Subsequent lining to improve the herbage and inhibit the recurrence of bracken, I agree, will not encourage heather, which we should all like to see more of because of its value as winter grazing, but it is better to have moorland grasses than high, tick-infested bracken, both for farmers and for walkers and picnickers.

The spray material has been drunk with no ill effects and I am told that a goldfish has been kept in the solution that is usually applied.

Finally, though, while public access is tolerated all over Dartmoor it is taking this de facto right too far to seek to use it to curtail normal farming operations on enclosed land.

Yours faithfully,  
J. E. B. WELLS,  
Creebar, Giddeigh,  
Chagford, Devon,  
August 26.

### Balance of terror

From Mr Neil Kinnock, MP for Islington (Labour)

Sir, During TV-am's breakfast programme on August 28 Mr David Frost asked me whether I agreed with the reported view of Mr Arthur Scargill that President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher were "the most dangerous duo" who "jointly present a threat to world peace".

In reply, as the TV-am transcript and recording of that interview show, I said: "It is a matter of open record that I would fundamentally disagree with that view of the balance of terror in the world" and then went on at greater length to say that the arms race between the power blocs has a momentum of its own and constitutes a "miserable equity of threat".

### Belton House plea

From Mr Timothy Kimber

Sir, I wonder whether Lord Brownlow is as confused by his cousin, Mr Hoos's curiously channelled advice (August 18) as I am.

Mr Hoos appears to be urging Lord Brownlow to follow both of the two options open to him. On the one hand he is acknowledging the right to possess an inheritance for the family. On the other he is pleading that Belton be given to the National Trust. Presumably the obstacle to Lord Brownlow's receipt of "the roars of applause from the family vault" is that the two options are mutually exclusive.

Belton is indeed a wonderful part of Britain's heritage and its future is of great importance. However the problems of its present owner, possibly exacerbated by the stewardship of past generations, are surely part of a wider issue.

An increasing part of the nation's heritage is being dislodged from private hands by the present capital tax regime. On top of this there is the problem of ever escalating current expenditure which in many cases far exceeds a very modest income. What,

Your front page headline on that story yesterday (August 29), "Scar-gill peace view backed by Kinnock", and the report by your Political Correspondent, Mr Anthony Bevins, that I "endorsed the view of Mr Arthur Scargill" are obviously serious distortions of what I actually said and clearly meant.

I am aware that rectifying letters do not have the same impact as front-page headlines. I nevertheless use this means of correcting your thoroughly misleading presentation of the story in the hope that accuracy of reporting will make up for prominence of misreporting.

Yours sincerely,  
NEIL KINNOCK,  
House of Commons,  
August 30.

if any, persons or institutions do the Government imagine will now take on the burden of the maintenance of such properties?

Without considering the philosophical case for such tax arrangements, the fact is that those institutions, led by the National Trust, which are attempting the task are already unable to cope. They have increasing numbers of insufficiently endowed historic properties being offered to them by others facing Lord Brownlow's dilemma.

When one considers Mr Hoos's confused and contradictory letter one can perhaps understand Lord Brownlow's reluctance to confide in him. What is less understandable is Mr Hoos's preference for public rather than private communications.

The facts of the matter are that, unaided by Mr Hoos, Lord Brownlow has put together a set of conditions of sale for Belton which has been widely described as being exceptionally imaginative and public-spirited.

Yours faithfully  
TIMOTHY KIMBER,  
Mr Carnforth,  
Lancashire,  
August 21.

### TV and religion

From Mrs Ann Marsh

Sir, Whilst I agree with Canon Martin (August 22) that the TV religious programmes need to cater for the housebound and elderly, I think they have a huge contribution to make in the widening and deepening of the average church-goer's faith. We need to hear of other people's visions and difficulties if our understanding of the worldwide church is to grow.

TV also gives the Church an opportunity to educate Christian thinking by making available the wisdom and spirituality of some of its finest teachers, on our basic tenets of faith and their relevance to this day.

I know of many Christians who will welcome a viewing time which does not clash with normal services in the local churches, but surely the hundreds of thousands of Christians and well-wishers in our land have a claim to a better time than 2pm, when the potential audience are still involved with a meal which is, for many, the most family-centred meal of the week.

Yours sincerely,  
ANN MARSH,  
30 Platts Lane,  
Hampstead, NW3,  
August 22.

### Youth training

From Mr K. N. Atkinson

Sir, In his letter in today's Times (August 25) the Director of Youth-aid expressed concern that the Youth Training Scheme may have some of

the shortcomings of the Youth Opportunities Programme, which is now ended.

The main difference is that for the first time young people can expect 12 months' high quality work-based training. Participating employers are required to provide a structured programme, including at least 13 weeks off the job. Criteria for the training programmes have been drawn up with the help of employers, trade unionists, educationists and voluntary organisations.

The work-experience element will be better planned than before. Far from increasing the risk of trainees not being offered jobs these factors are more likely to persuade employers to keep them on afterwards. But participation in the Youth Training Scheme cannot guarantee a job at the end: this is not its function.

Area manpower boards, who are involved in approving schemes, include representatives of the organisations named above. They have the enormous task of securing places for up to 460,000 trainees in this first year of the scheme - a task which no single man could ever try in any other country.

We hope that organizations like Youthaid with the interests of young people at heart will do all they can to secure the development of this new scheme on a sound basis.

Yours faithfully,  
K. N. ATKINSON,  
Director of Youth Training,  
Manpower Services Commission,  
Training Division,  
Moortool,  
Sheffield,  
August 25.

### Service broadcasts

Group Captain G. H. Pirie (ret'd)

Sir, The members of the Broadcasting Division of the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (the BFBS) and the servicemen they entertain will be hard put to recognise the present state of the BFBS from the letter of their former director, Mr Ian Woolf, published in your issue of August 11.

Mr Blaker, the former Minister (Armed Forces) announced to the House of Commons on March 26 last year that the SSVC, formed by the merger of the BFBS and the Services Cinema Corporation, would continue to provide, at no extra cost, the high standard of service then provided.

The SSVC has been in existence for just over a year; it has been a period of energetic and encouraging activity and I am confident that the Government's expectations will be fulfilled. Of the 66 established staff of the BFBS with more than two years to serve before normal retirement, at the time of the

### Body and mind

From Dr Sally Jobling

Sir, Having followed with interest your recent articles and correspondence on "alternative medicine", may I suggest one reason for its growing popularity is that it supplies a commodity seldom available on the NHS: consultation time.

NHS GPs and consultants are normally limited to five or 10 minutes per patient, whereas in the private sector consultations last for up to one hour. It is not surprising that patients appreciate this extra time devoted to their problems.

I feel that whilst NHS doctors are handicapped by the present system, the drift away from the NHS and towards any alternative will continue.

Yours faithfully,  
SALLY JOBLING,  
Eurohealth Clinic and Diagnostic Center,  
Dubai Trade Centre Residences,  
Box 1, Apt 206,  
PO Box 11748, Dubai,  
UAE,  
August 21.

### A cause for railing

From Mr D. H. Colvin

Sir, Perhaps the most unsightly and regrettable long-term consequence of World War II on London is also the most unremarkable - the poor quality, or in some instances the complete absence, of railings around many important buildings and public parks.

Compare the ornate magnificence of the railings of the Parc Monceau in Paris with the pathetic post and rail which currently encircles St James's Park or the tatty chicken-wire of Vincent Square, SW1. If France had not collapsed so suddenly in May, 1940, and had fought a little more like Britain, the railings of Paris might also have been transformed into Chars or Morano-Sauzier fighters. But, if so, priority would surely have been given to their restoration once the war was over.

Why was this never done in London? Shortage of metal? Cost? Whatever the reason, it is too late to rectify the position now?

Yours faithfully,  
D. H. COLVIN,  
15 Westmoreland Terrace, SW1,  
August 25.

merger, all except five have transferred to the SSVC.

I have seen for myself at the overseas stations that we continue to provide a service greatly valued by servicemen and their commanders. The relationships between the broadcasters, the MOD and the commands through the chain of the council, of which the Adjutant General is president, the board of management and advisory committees, supported by professional audience research, are working very satisfactorily.

As chairman of the SSVC I was proud to become associated with the broadcasters. The morale of the staff at the broadcasting stations is uniformly high; they know that they are doing a very worthwhile job within a new and forward looking organisation.

Yours faithfully,  
GORDON PIRIE, Chairman,  
The Services Sound and Vision Corporation,  
Chalfont Grove,  
Gerrards Cross,  
Buckinghamshire.

### A view of Hackney

From Mr Peter Croft

Sir, Mr Kaufman (feature, August 22) was unwise to select Hackney as the text for his sermon on the evils of government policy. Hackney, in all its squalor, at present the poorest local government area in Britain, is a monument to socialism and nothing else.

With one short break, it has had Labour administrations for fifty years. Countless relief, project, rate grants, industrial grants, and almost every conceivable subsidy have been poured into it. The results cannot be presented as anything other than a complete and unambiguous condemnation of socialist administration and Mr Kaufman's policy of flinging other people's money at other people's problems.

Enterprise has been stifled by ludicrous rate levels: one business there is paying only fractionally less in rates than a prime site at Oxford Circus would cost it and the council wonders why unemployment is over 20 per cent. The massive rates have driven out the most productive elements, and drawn in and demotivated by massive subsidies the feeble and indigent. The subsidised council rents effectively render it impossible to move out, and make it impossible to provide a decent standard of repair and maintenance for the slum estates that disfigure the borough.

A third of the population is of New Commonwealth origin, at every turn urged by the council's panoply of community workers, race-relations advisers, and other agitators that their disadvantages can only be remedied by external action. Meanwhile, alongside them live descendants of the Jewish immigration of 1890-1910 whose forebears attained prosperity, in the face of far crueler difficulties, by self-help and hard work.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER CROFT,  
27 Kersington Road, W5.

### Breakfast fare

From Mr N. A. Oppenheim

Sir, Your back page "Anniversaries" section today (August 23) gratuitously informs me that Sir William Wallace, a Scottish national leader was hanged, beheaded, disembowelled and quartered in 1305. Apart from the unnecessary overkill involved, this information spoiled my breakfast.

Just stick to the dates, please.

Yours faithfully,  
N. A. OPPENHEIM,  
61 Park Road, Chiswick, W4,  
August 23.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE

August 30: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this evening at a performance given by New York City Ballet at Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland and Mrs Michael Wigley were in attendance.

Princess Anne will visit Northampton on November 3. Princess Anne, president of the Save the Children Fund, will be present at a luncheon given by the Royal Household Association at the Grand Hotel, Bristol, on November 4.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Alan Hooper, Director of the Royal Academy of Dancing, will be held at St Paul's Church, Covent Garden on Tuesday, September 6, 1983 at noon. Tickets are not required.

### Forthcoming marriages

Mr G. A. Blott and Miss P. M. Savage. The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, elder son of Mr and Mrs Cyril Blott, of West Chillingham, West Sussex, and Patricia, daughter of the late Mr F. Savage and Mrs L. T. Savage, of Blackburn, Lancashire. The marriage will take place in Hongkong later in the year.

Mr N. E. Braithwaite and Miss C. J. Esenhigh. The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr Douglas Braithwaite, of Haughton Castle, Humbug, Northumberland, and the late Mrs Braithwaite, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Esenhigh, of Brunton House, Wall, Northumberland.

Mr J. W. Furness and Miss G. P. Booth. The engagement is announced between John Wilson, son of Mr and Mrs Frank Furness, Kirby Knowle, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, and Grania Patricia, eldest daughter of Mr John Booth, Darver Castle, Dundalk, Co. Louth, and of Mrs Thomas Long, Martinstown House, The Curragh, Co. Kildare.

Mr G. W. Berragan, RA and Miss E. A. Blesard. The engagement is announced between Gerald William, younger son of Mr and Mrs C. J. Berragan, and Karen Angela, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Blesard.

Mr C. H. S. Tubb and Miss E. A. Digby. The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs M. C. Tubb, of Brookland House, Crowthorne, Northamptonshire, and Edwina, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Digby, of 4 Albany Court, Epping, Essex.

Mr C. N. C. Sherwood and Miss R. J. Staple. The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. B. Sherwood, of Hinton Manor, Oxfordshire, and Rosemary, eldest daughter of the Rev David and Mrs Staple, of Harrow.

### Marriage

Mr S. D. Jacks and Miss V. Mackworth-Praed. The marriage took place on August 20, 1983, at St Michael's Church, Mickleham, of Mr Sam Mackworth-Praed and Miss Vanessa Mackworth-Praed.

### Archaeology

## Adjusting dates of early metal working

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

Recent work in Vietnam and Thailand suggests that there was, after all, no precociously early development of metal-working in the region. Excavations in the 1960s and 1970s at two sites in northern Thailand had suggested that bronze metallurgy had begun soon after 3000 BC and iron working between 1600 and 1000 BC, in each case a thousand years earlier than the same processes in metropolitan China to the north.

While the two sites, Non Nok Tha and Ban Chiang, were the only ones in South-east Asia with radiocarbon dates for this period, there seemed on reason to deny the emergence of a new technology at a surprisingly early date in the region, although the social matrix within which it seemed to have occurred, the simple farming village, was unexpected.

New radiocarbon dates from several other sites in the region indicate that South-east Asia in fact acquired metal-working technology after it had already developed in China, although the early dates for bronze smelting there, around 2700 BC in the western province of Gansu, confirm that independent discovery of metallurgy did occur in eastern Asia as well as in the Near East and in Europe.

Excavations at Ban Nadi, near Ban Chiang in the Korat Plateau area of northern Thailand, have yielded radiocarbon dates that put the initial occupation between 1500 and 1000 BC, with the use of iron appearing between 400 and 100 BC.

At Ban Chiang Hian, a large moated settlement in the Chi Valley, bronze is present before 1000 BC and iron appears between 600 and 300 BC. At a third site, Non Chai, the much later initial occupation has iron working between 300 BC and AD 200.

The pottery from Non Chai matches that from the later levels at Ban Nadi, which in its lower levels has clear links with Ban Chiang. Thus, the very early dates from Ban Chiang have been brought forward in time by a millennium or so.

In Vietnam, recent work has shown that bronze technology appears by the late Phung Nguyen phase, around 1500 BC, while iron working comes in the Dong Son phase between 600 and 400 BC. The radiocarbon dates for Dong Son come from large wooden boat coffins, found at sites in the Red River valley around Hanoi.

The technology of bronze-casting in the Red River and Mekong valleys is comparable in the later second millennium BC, including sandstone moulds and spouted crucibles for casting axes. There is a radiocarbon date of about 1430 BC for the site of Doi Chu near Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), where the sandstone moulds are just like those in north-east Thailand.

The earliest iron objects at Ban Chiang and Ban Nadi are spearheads, with cast-on bronze hafts; such bimetallic technology is widespread in areas having easy contact with late Warring States China, and in South China it has recently been noted in the lordly graves at Shizhai shan in Yunnan.

This shorter chronology "displaces with the need to explain the origins of metallurgy and its durability in simple village contexts", said Professor Charles Higham, of the University of Oxford, who presented recent archaeological evidence from South East Asia at a British Academy lecture.

"In its place we can focus on a particularly interesting change, from small autonomous communities to an hierarchical settlement pattern."

Therefore, while South East Asia can still be seen as the seat of an independent emergence of complex society in the later first millennium BC, one which was absorbed by China in AD 43, (coincidentally the same year as the Romans did the same to the Iron Age Kingdoms of Britain) some of the technology underlying that society must now be interpreted within a wider frame of reference which admits Chinese influence from at least the second millennium BC onwards.

### Science report

## Otters return to an English river

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A harness carrying a radio transmitter worn by a male otter, one of three animals released at a secret location in East Anglia in July, has been recovered according to plan by scientists of the Otter Trust and the Nature Conservancy Council.

For the past seven weeks the transmitter has enabled the movements of the otters to be monitored nightly. All three animals have been seen from time to time; the other two are females.

They were reared together, and between them they have established a territory of more than six miles of river adjacent to the pen where they were released, and many miles more of ditches and small streams.

The purpose of monitoring the otters was to establish what they needed to make a suitable habitat. Now that has been determined, three more young otters will be introduced into the

wild within the next few weeks with the purpose of creating, eventually, a viable breeding community.

Research into the behaviour of the otter, from which a scientifically-based effort for conserving the species could be pursued, began more than ten years ago. But the decline of the animal began in the middle of the 1950s, and in many areas it has not been seen since. The disappearance coincided with the use of hazardous pesticides, and particularly dieldrin, which have since been abandoned.

The situation in England is much more serious than other parts of Britain. Dr Tony Mitchell-Jones, of the Nature Conservancy Council, said yesterday there was no reliable figures for the numbers in England, but some specialists in population biology believed there were too few left to ensure survival.

## Television's religious enlightenment

To understand the significance of the fast concerning religious television broadcasting, the record needs setting straight. Only then is it possible to distinguish between the apparent issue of demotion and the real one of public discourse.

For the record then, the Central Religious Advisory Committee (CRAC), which serves the BBC and IBA, under its then chairman Dr Runcie in 1975 wrote evidence for the Annan Commission. Recognizing that the longstanding religious "closed period" between 6.15pm and 7.25am was an obvious target for any reformist commission on broadcasting, CRAC advocated some change. This would leave BBC1's and ITV's popular religious music programmes back-to-back from 6.40pm to 7.15am, but allow the 6.15pm to 6.40pm slot, the BBC agreeing to a start time not later than 10.30pm and the IBA agreeing to somewhere between 4pm and 6.40pm.

That agreement came into effect at Easter 1977, and with BBC2 and now Channel Four agreeing not to compete strongly against popular religious music, has lasted more or less intact, less because BBC1's programmes have recently been slipping behind their agreed start time. ITV settled down to a 6pm slot, a brief flirtation in Autumn 1981 with *Credo* at 4pm proving unsatisfactory.

With competition reaching an intolerable level, CRAC's first thought was to transmit *Credo* back-to-back with *Everyman*, but that ran against CRAC's long-nourished desire to see serious religious programmes out in the open; hence the new 2pm slot.

Nor can *The Times* fairly call the ITV kente black. While readers cannot doubt the serious attention this newspaper gives to religious matters, it is no accident that this column and Clifford Langley's on Mondays are "tucked away" in the shelter of the Court Page. Religion can find its way on to the main news pages, and even, as for instance, during the Pope's visit last year, keep hitting the front page. Precisely the same is true of ITV. So, leaving aside the handling of the matter, the early afternoon slot is not in itself derogatory, and at least ITV's regular religious output is no longer uncomfortably banished.

Against that background we can consider the real issue, which is the danger of religious television programmes changing their quality and becoming detached from the run of the output. It is a danger looming from the United States, where commercial religious television is enjoying a hectic success, isolated from everyday life. Direct broadcast satellite and cable could easily bring such material to our screens, and already there are simple-minded Christians (and some with the entrepreneurial wisdom of serpents) banging on our television's doors.

Examples need giving. The enterprising Charles Cordle, whose energy I admire, a few years ago founded the Trinity Trust, with wide Christian

support, and its offshoot Lella Productions. He saw the opportunity that the coming of channel 4 signalled, and was keen to provide a strand of good, clean, family programmes, including evangelistic material of a sort unfamiliar to British viewers. A similarly motivated group was at the heart of one of the consortia that made an impressive but unsuccessful bid for one of the current ITV franchises.

More modestly, a group led by a north-country Christian solicitor, with financial support from Praise the Lord Inc, have made pilot chat shows which they have sought in vain to have broadcast.

An American evangelist, having pitched tent in Scotland, wrote to the IBA to find how to buy time on its stations. A recent reply explained that this was against the law: "there shall be no advertising by or on behalf of any political or religious body, or for political or religious ends," the Act governing Independent Broadcasting has been saying since 1954. The evangelist's response was dipped in comminatory vitriol.

It is tempting to ignore these developments, and assume that religious broadcasting in the United Kingdom can go on indefinitely under the present benevolent arrangements, as it does, for instance, so impressively on BBC network radio.

Times change, however, and television channels multiply. Though the House committee last October recommended against allowing religious ownership of cable stations, under the modest

controls to be expected of coming legislation for cable, the door seems open to material of this sort. Will Gresham's Law then begin to operate, with bad money driving out good? It is not impossible to imagine ITV companies beginning to think that surely there is no need for them to keep showing religious programmes, when there is all this material on cable with its obvious appeal to a religiously-minded minority of viewers. In much the same way, they might be tempted to leave other minority interests, from angling to zoology, for distribution to aficionados through the cable service.

Religion is not a hobby for the pious. Like politics, with which our legislation wisely copes it, religion is of common concern, and it is important that it keeps its voice in the public discourse of national broadcasting.

Though it is tempting, therefore, for CRAC to see the moving of *Credo* from 6pm to 2pm as a flouting of the committee's advice, its energies may be more creatively spent in ensuring that the programmes - on Channel Four as well as ITV, and on BBC1 if not so evidently on BBC2 - continue as best they can to "inform, educate and entertain" the public at large. Canada's similar formula puts "entertainment" for "education", and for CRAC and the two broadcasting authorities which it serves, enlightenment rather than the obscurantism that threatens, could be a valuable watchword.

Christopher Martin



East meets West: Sung ok Yang performing a fan dance during the Korean National Music and Dance Company's show at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London. The production, part of the Anglo-Korean centenary celebrations, closes on Saturday. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

### Birthdays today

Sir Donald Allen, 89; Mr Roy Castle, 51; Mr Roland Culver, 82; Sir James Cresswell, 62; Lieutenant-General Sir Niall Crookenden, 68; Mr Bernard Lewis, 70; Mr Bryan Organ, 48; Mr Itzhak Perlman, 38; Mr Justice Smeeth, 65.

### University news

Leeds. Dr Roy Parker, Medical Research Council senior grade scientist and senior lecturer at London University Institute of Cancer Research and Royal Marsden Hospital, has been appointed professor of medical physics from September 1.

Oxford. Professor Norman Gower, aged 42, senior lecturer in mathematics, has been appointed the first director of the centre for mathematics education. He has also been awarded a personal chair in mathematics with special reference to mathematics education.

Church news. Scottish Episcopal Church. The Rev J. A. G. Grier, Rector of St Peter's, Fraserburgh, and St John's, Peterhead, has been elected Moderator of the General Assembly of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Latest appointments. Mr Martin Revell to be director of South West Arts.

## Fear of reprisal stops public helping police, Newman says

From Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent, Cambridge

Fear of reprisals in many London housing estates is stopping people helping the police to solve crimes, Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said yesterday.

"Even people who have witnessed quite serious crimes do not want to become involved," he told a Cambridge conference. "There are estates and streets where the law-abiding majority suffer seriously at the hands of a lawless minority."

The lawless minority tend to label every police intervention as harassment. Yet the majority, provided they are not personally involved, want more police intervention rather than less.

Sir Kenneth, in a diagnosis of London's ills and police strategy to deal with them, forewarned the police force's launch of neighbourhood watch schemes on September 6 with a call for joint action by local government and other agencies the police and the community.

"It is commonplace in some multi-ethnic areas for policemen

making a legitimate arrest or intervention to be surrounded by a hostile crowd bent on 'rescuing' the prisoner or interviewee." That could occur even when the victim was not black.

If police acted alone in tackling illegal drinking clubs or making arrests for drug offences, they would be faced with the gloomy prospect of being constantly at war with a section of the community, he said.

Describing the development of new police techniques, Sir Kenneth said that immediate pursuit or apprehension of a suspect was sometimes unwise in sensitive areas and could lead to riot.

"Police officers are encouraged to note the description of the offender and arrest him later in less conspicuous and tense circumstances or to delay action until reinforcements can be called and a well-controlled operation mounted."

Sir Kenneth, who was addressing an international colloquium at Wolfson College on policing and social policy in multi-ethnic areas,

said that remodelled neighbourhood policing in London sought to provide a better service to the public by concentrating on crime prevention and support for victims. Backing these tactics were mobile support units of about twenty men under an inspector. They would provide a rapid response to spontaneous outbreaks of disorder and play a supplementary role in crime prevention.

Authorities could help to reduce fear of crime and strengthen community confidence by the removal of derelict buildings, improving waste collection, removing graffiti and smartening up street furniture. If unruly youngsters were to be pushed off the streets they must have somewhere to go. The cooperation of schools and the youth service was essential to provide additional recreational and educational opportunity.

Police operations needed to be seen as part of a total community strategy, he said.

Front-line Europe, page 10

## Saint's shadow slips from Stoke into oblivion

By Clifford Langley

St Peter's rested in peace yesterday, along with St Philomena and other saints who never existed, after the priest who gave currency to the bizarre tale of her burial in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, said he had been "taken in" by her inventor Dr Colin Richmond, of Keele University.

Dr Richmond submitted an article to the *Downside Review* together with a covering letter to the editor, Dr Daniel Roca.

"I am as sure as any historian ever can be that St Peter's head, once at Fribourg, is now buried in the garden of 21, The Villas, Stoke-on-Trent," Dr Richmond had written. But in his covering letter, which Fr Rees has now re-examined, he had stated: "This is a story. I often write such 'fictions'."

Fr Rees understood "fiction" referred to Dr Richmond's speculations as to what really happened, not to the whole article.

"I thought it was told as a story. The Gospels are stories but they are true. I was quite sure it was genuine. It was so convincing, I was taken in to that extent," he said. So he published it in his magazine without a word of caution to the reader, and told inquirers that it was a serious piece of historical research.

## Southwark rejects charges of extravagance

At the top of any list of "over-spending" councils come the inner London boroughs controlled by the Labour Party. Such boroughs as Islington and Camden regularly make the news. Less ostentatious but no less of a candidate for the government's new rate-capping procedures is Southwark, where David Walker asked councillors and officials to explain the need for what they concede are notably high levels of municipal spending.

Mr Davis is suspicious of press bias. "There is so little understanding of what is involved in local government operations, so much use of simplistic formulae."

Maybe, but those formulae are being used by the Government to pilory Southwark. This year the borough is spending 34 per cent more on the Government's assessment of what it needs to spend and nearly 17 per cent above the public spending control total allocated to it by the Department of the Environment. Worse, Southwark's portion of the local rates bill increased by 60 per cent in April.

Compared with other inner London boroughs on the Chartered Institute of Finance and Accountancy's figures, Southwark is not an egregious high spender but the expense of its provision mounts up. In 1983-84, Southwark is spending 1455 per head of population, a figure exceeded in inner London only by Camden,

and nearly twice that expended in Wandsworth.

Mr Gerry Corless, the chief executive, said that four-fifths of that spending on services is related to urban deprivation and no one could pretend that the acres of public housing in Bermondsey and Peckham did not contain a fair showing of the social blight of the inner city.

Mr Corless detailed them: Southwark's disproportionate number of children in care, children at risk of abuse from deprived parents; the largest public housing stock (62,000 units) in London; numbers of elderly; a large black population. The debt on Southwark's housing accounts for 40 per cent of its total spend.

"A strict head count in Southwark is misleading," Mr Corless said, "claiming that work is spending 1455 per head of population, a figure exceeded in inner London only by Camden,

### OBITUARY

## SIR DENNIS PROCTOR Distinguished civil servant

Sir Dennis Proctor, KCB, who died yesterday at the age of 77, was a distinguished civil servant whose career was in two parts: the substantial part of his working life was spent at the Treasury where he served from 1930 to 1950; then, after intercalating three years in business he returned to the civil service where he served successively as Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation from 1953 to 1958 and Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Power from 1958 to 1965.

Philip Dennis Proctor was born on September 1 1905, the son of Sir Philip Proctor KBE. He was educated at Harrow, where he played cricket for the school, and at King's College Cambridge, of which he was made an honorary fellow in 1968. His college and his membership of the Apostles deeply influenced him and gave him life-long friends.

In 1929, after a year at Marburg University, he entered the civil service and was posted to the Ministry of Health. In 1930 he was transferred to the Treasury, where he remained for twenty years. He was an effective and popular colleague in a style all his own: practical, sound and good judgment, but with a natural impetuosity. The only jobs he could not do were those (like being private secretary to a minister) which involved suppressing his personality. Where force, originality and disregard of convention were required, he was first-rate.

His last post at the Treasury which he occupied from 1948 to 1950, was that of Third Secretary in charge of matters relating to the arts and sciences. He was extremely suited for this, and gained the affection and trust of those with whom he dealt.

In 1950 he left the civil service to join a Danish shipping firm. This was not a success; the head of his firm was an autocrat and Proctor was not used to receiving orders undisputed. In 1953 he was out of a job.

By chance, at that time there was a vacancy, difficult to fill, at the Ministry of Transport. Sir Edward Bridges, as he then was, had always had a high regard for Proctor's ability and, without knowing that he was unemployed, asked him if he would rejoin the civil service. He did so, and never regretted it. He served as Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Transport till 1958, and then as

Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Power till he retired in 1965.

In 1952, while he was out of the Civil Service, he was made a Trustee of the Tate Gallery. From 1953 to 1959 he was Chairman of the Trustees. Those were stormy days at the Tate; there had been considerable strife under his predecessor as chairman, and it fell to Proctor to take the lead in restoring calm. In this he and his colleagues were successful, but only after much pain and trouble, from which he suffered greatly, more than his friends thought necessary; but his was not a placid nature and the effort remained a sore memory for the rest of his life.

He also served for some time on committees relating to the arts set up by the Gallean Foundation, and on the governing committee of the Connauld Institute.

After his retirement he found much to occupy his ever-active mind. His second home was in the Vaucluse. His interest in the region, together with a classical education which he had never neglected, led to the appearance in 1971 of *Henri de la Marche in History*, an able and original book on Henri de la Marche through Gaul and over the Alps.

In 1980 he published *The Experience of Thucydides*, the fruit of a life-long study of the historian. From Thucydides he turned to two other interests, on both of which he hoped to publish something: astronomy, where he believed that there was room for a book on the Galaxy by a non-astronomer for his fellow; and *Mane de Gouray*, the "file par excellence" of Montaigne, and the fine old library, but he did not live to finish either project.

A labour of love which did see the light of day, however, was his editing of *The Autobiography of G. Lowes Dickinson*, the Cambridge don whom he had known in his own days at King's. This task had originally been left to Lowes Dickinson to E. M. Foster, but the novelist who had already produced his own biography of the subject, passed it on to Proctor who published it with a sensitive introduction in 1973.

Proctor was appointed CB in 1946 and created KCB in 1959. He was twice married, first in 1936 to Dorothy Varda who died in 1951, and secondly in 1953 to Barbara, daughter of the Rev Sir Ronald Adams, BT. They had two sons and one daughter.

### MR L. R. MISSEN

Mr Leslie Robert Missen, CMG, MC, who died on August 27 at the age of 86 had a career in local government education, during which time he was also education adviser to various government ministries.

He had served in the First World War with the 7th Battalion N Staffs Regiment in Mesopotamia, Persia and the Caucasus gaining his MC, afterwards going into local government education where he had senior posts at Leeds, Middlesbrough and Wigan before joining East Saffolk County Council where he was Chief Education Officer from 1936 to 1962.

During this time he was Educational Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture from 1944 to 1954; to the Ministry of Education from 1950 to 1957; to the Colonial Office from 1957 to 1958; and to the Royal Navy from 1958 to 1964. He was also a member of the Local Government

Commission for England from 1962 to 1966, and President of the Association of Education Officers in 1972.

His publications included a *very* history of his battalion and he had contributed to *Purnell's History of the First World War*. He was appointed CMG in 1956.

Mr John Arthur Edwards, CBE, who died on August 25 at the age of 82, was president of the London Rent Assessment Panel from 1963 to 1973, having been vice-president from 1963 to 1968.

Lady Baker, who died on August 28 after a long illness, was the wife of the Rt Hon Sir George Baker, CBE, former President of the Family Division of the High Court of Justice. She was the former Jessie McCall Findlay.

Sir Robert Bartlett-Chadwick, BT, died on August 28 at the age of 72.

### Latest wills

Una Maud Mandary, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, left estate valued at £492,954 net. After bequests totalling £37,000, she left the residue equally between the Church Army, St Luke's Nursing Home for the Clergy, London, Christian Aid, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Salvation Army, Dr Barnardo's, and the David Livingstone Missionary Society, Glasgow.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Bevas, Mr Frederick Eardley Verburgh of Watlington, Kent, company director, £455,456. Craigville, Mr Hugh Woodville Carson, of Conway, Gwynedd, stockbroker, £459,764. Jones, Mr Roland Leslie, of Ashridge, Somerset, £240,112. Gieschardt, Mrs Annis, of Covent Garden, London, £223,118.

Green, Mr Stephen Bernard Rylands, of Lyddington, Leicestershire, £201,368. Gwines, Mrs Frances Grace, of Nether Wallop, Hampshire, £216,998.

Howard, Mrs Janet Rymer, of Winchester, Hampshire, £240,285. Lamm, Major-General Sir John Emilfus, of Gerards Cross, Buckinghamshire, Colonel, Seaford Highlands 1947-57, £67,677.

Madd, Mr Derek Percival, of Gushborough, Devon, £296,435. Preeley, Mr George Martin, of Winkfield, York, £408,639.

Sore, Mrs Muriel, of Colton, Co. Louth, estate in England, Wales and the Republic of Ireland, £277,475. Wall, Mr Michael, of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, farmer, estate in England, Wales and the Republic of Ireland, £318,576. Young, Mrs Kathleen, of Orpington, Kent, £201,695.

### Council overspending: 2

## Southwark rejects charges of extravagance

At the top of any list of "over-spending" councils come the inner London boroughs controlled by the Labour Party. Such boroughs as Islington and Camden regularly make the news. Less ostentatious but no less of a candidate for the government's new rate-capping procedures is Southwark, where David Walker asked councillors and officials to explain the need for what they concede are notably high levels of municipal spending.

Mr Davis is suspicious of press bias. "There is so little understanding of what is involved in local government operations, so much use of simplistic formulae."

Maybe, but those formulae are being used by the Government to pilory Southwark. This year the borough is spending 34 per cent more on the Government's assessment of what it needs to spend and nearly 17 per cent above the public spending control total allocated to it by the Department of the Environment. Worse, Southwark's portion of the local rates bill increased by 60 per cent in April.

Compared with other inner London boroughs on the Chartered Institute of Finance and Accountancy's figures, Southwark is not an egregious high spender but the expense of its provision mounts up. In 1983-84, Southwark is spending 1455 per head of population, a figure exceeded in inner London only by Camden,

and nearly twice that expended in Wandsworth.

Mr Gerry Corless, the chief executive, said that four-fifths of that spending on services is related to urban deprivation and no one could pretend that the acres of public housing in Bermondsey and Peckham did not contain a fair showing of the social blight of the inner city.

Mr Corless detailed them: Southwark's disproportionate number of children in care, children at risk of abuse from deprived parents; the largest public housing stock (62,000 units) in London; numbers of elderly; a large black population. The debt on Southwark's housing accounts for 40 per cent of its total spend.

"A strict head count in Southwark is misleading," Mr Corless said, "claiming that work is spending 1455 per head of population, a



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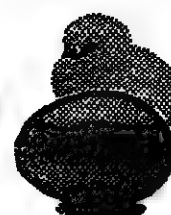
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## Investment and Finance

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### STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 718.3 down 5.8  
FT All Shares 454.52 down 2.78  
Bargains: 17,067  
Datastream USM Leaders  
Index 100.53 up 0.05  
New York Dow Jones  
Average 1195.65 up 2.54  
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones  
Index 9,195.92 up 23.38  
Hongkong Hang Seng  
Index 971.08 down 10.72  
Amsterdam: 147.7 down 0.2  
Sydney: AO Index 895.2  
down 0.3  
Frankfurt Commerzbank  
Index 914.30 down 1.60  
Brussels: General Index  
132.69 down 0.40  
Paris: CAC Index 135.9  
down 0.7  
Zurich: SKA General Index  
283.3 up 2.5

### CURRENCIES

**LONDON CLOSE**  
Sterling £1.4990 down 25pts  
DM 2.6885 up 0.4  
DM 4.03 up 0.023  
FF 12.13 up 0.08  
Yen 370.25 up 0.75  
**Dollar**  
Index 129.3 up 0.5  
DM 2.6885  
**NEW YORK LATEST**  
Sterling £1.4980  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
ECU 0.566246

### INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
Bank base rate 9½  
Finance houses base rate 10  
Discount market loans week  
fixed 9½-9¾  
3 month interbank 9½-9¾  
**Euro-currency rates:**  
3 month dollar 10½-10¾  
3 month DM 5½-5¾  
3 month Fr 15½-15¾  
**US rates:**  
Bank prime rate 11.00  
Fed funds 9¾  
Treasury long bond 10½-10¾  
**ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling**  
Export Finance Scheme IV  
Average reference rate for  
interest period July 6 to August  
2, 1983 inclusive: 9.369 per  
cent.

### GOLD

**London fixed (per ounce):**  
am \$418.85 pm \$418.10  
close \$417.50  
**New York (futures):** \$418.10  
Kruggerand (per coin):  
\$430.50-432.00 (\$287.50-  
288.50)  
**Sovereigns (new):**  
\$98.25-99 (\$95.25-96)  
\*Excludes VAT

### TODAY

**INTERIMS:** Arbutnot Government  
Securities Trust, Baskin  
International, I. J. Dewhurst,  
Guardian Royal Exchange,  
William Jackson, Johnson Mat-  
they (Quarterly), Nu-Swift In-  
dustries, Owners Abroad  
Group, Thomas Robinson, G.  
W. Sparrow & Sons.  
**FINALS:** Associated Dairies  
Group, East of Scotland, On-  
shore.

### ANNUAL MEETINGS

Cluff Oil, 58 St James's Street,  
SW1 (10.30); The Fleming  
Technology Investment Trust,  
P&O Building (2nd floor);  
Forshaw Burnwood Brew-  
ery, The Brewery, Burnwood,  
Nr Warrington, Cheshire  
(11.00); Great Portland Es-  
tates, Brompton Hotel, Dover  
Street, W1 (3.00).

### NOTEBOOK

Half time profits of £16.1 from  
the Ladbrokes Group, the  
betting shops to hotels com-  
pany, disappointed the market  
which had hoped for better.  
Profits were up by 20 per cent  
on the previous period, and  
reflect higher occupancy in the  
hotels and stronger margins on  
the betting side. The interim  
dividend has been increased  
by 10 per cent to 4.07p.  
CRA, the Australian mining  
group which is 53 per cent  
owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, made  
interim net profits of \$522m  
(\$12m) against a loss of \$529m  
for the same period of last  
year. A dividend of 3 cents has  
been declared. Sales, which for  
the first time included Omalco  
as a subsidiary, rose from  
\$890m to \$1,530m and  
earnings per share were 5.1  
cents instead of a loss of 6.7  
cents. The company says that  
demand and prices for most  
minerals were higher in the first  
half and that the trend is  
continuing. Most of the subsid-  
aries and associates increased  
their contributions.

Markets expect M1 to slip further from Fed's target range

# Dollar marches on as fears grow of US money supply bulge

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The dollar surged ahead on currency markets yesterday as dealers faded their obsession with United States money supply figures.

Disappointment over the more \$200m fall in M1 announced last Friday soon gave way to concern about the expected bulge in monetary growth in the weeks ahead, which it is believed, will push M1 further outside the Federal Reserve's target range.

However, by late afternoon the dollar was running out of steam. Having touched DM2.6885 in London and began to weaken in New York markets after the Fed injected reserves into the system with \$1.5bn of customer repurchases.

Dealers interpreted the Fed action as a move to stabilize United States interest rates. Last week it drained reserves with reverse repurchases after the key Fed funds rate fell below 9 per cent.

But yesterday Fed funds had moved up from the 9½ per cent Monday to about 9¾ per cent which dealers believe is as high as the Fed would like.

Sterling was dragged up by the dollar yesterday rising nearly ¼ pence to DM4.03 and ½ cent to FF12.13. It eased slightly against the dollar to \$1.499 - down 25 points - but its trade-weighted value rose 0.4 to 85.2.

Although there is still reluctance to sell dollars, there are signs of growing disenchantment in the markets with the strength of the US currency. "There are many more people willing to sell the dollar, if they were convinced others would do the same," one dealer said yesterday.

One argument frequently put forward suggesting that the dollar will begin to weaken is the burgeoning US trade deficit. On Monday the dollar suffered a temporary setback, while London

markets were closed for the Bank Holiday, after US trade figures were announced. But reaction was short-lived and attention soon returned to money supply.

Dealers believe that the Federal Reserve is pursuing a neutral policy towards monetary growth. However, there are worries that

M1 figures due on Friday could show a rise in money supply of \$500m to \$1m and a further large increase is expected the following week.

In recent weeks M1 has come closer in line with the target range but figures over the next fortnight could push it well outside the

range once again. There is concern in the markets that this would once again push up United States interest rates.

Reacting to the overnight fall in United States bond prices, gilt-edged stocks closed yesterday with losses of up to ½% at the long end of the market.

## Japan trade surplus at record \$3.7bn

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Japan recorded its highest yet surplus on international trade in goods of \$3,760m last month, with exports nearly 5 per cent up on a year earlier, according to official government figures released yesterday.

This is in sharp contrast to the \$6,360m US trade deficit for the same month announced on Monday.

So far this year Japan has run a visible trade surplus of \$16,500m, putting the country on target for a record \$30,000m surplus this year.

Japan's export success, notably in high technology such as video tape recorders and sensitive industrial sectors as motor vehicles, has

prompted anxiety in Europe and America that Japan will corner the lion's share of the benefits from economic recovery, hitting output and jobs in their domestic economies.

Japan has been a major beneficiary of the American economic revival, its exports boosted by the weakness of the yen against the sky-high dollar.

Despite its low inflation rate and strong balance of payments position, the yen has been weakened by huge capital outflows to take advantage of higher interest rates in the United States. Pressures for protection against Japanese goods have been particularly strong in a post record trade deficit of up to \$70,000m this year.

## Britain reschedules loans of £400m

By John Lawless

Britain has had to reschedule more than £400m in official debts owed by countries which have got into economic difficulties, the Export Credits Guarantee Department will announce shortly.

The rescheduling agreements have been negotiated in the last 11 years but five of them came in the ECGD's financial year ending in March.

The publication of the figure for the first time, although small when set against the commercial debts rescheduled by banks, will underline the growing problems faced by all state-run export insurance agencies.

The £400m relates to 16 agreements for longer repayment periods negotiated since 1972, some of which will already have been repaid. But the fact that five came into ECGD's last financial year, emphasizes the increase in cash-strapped buyers of western goods.

What is more, another six countries are known to be awaiting the start of various bilateral negotiations, having had

their applications to reschedule agreed by the Paris Club.

Poland, however, is not among them. If as now seems possible, the West renews negotiations over Polish debt, that will only add to the burden of the ECGD and others.

ECGD's exposure in Poland has shrunk from almost £1.1bn when Nato halted rescheduling talks in protest over martial law, to about £700m.

This is by no means only accounted for by claims from British exporters. Large sums have been wiped from its books because projects to which it had committed insurance, have been cancelled. Short-term business has also stopped.

The publication by the ECGD of names, and the sum it has rescheduled, is part of an effort to kill rumours that its activities have become a drain upon the taxpayer.

It will reveal how it is heading for the red on its commercial account - but that it still has substantial reserves in its national interest.

## Dow up 3 points in moderate trading

New York (AP - Dow Jones) - Stocks held onto part of their early gains, yesterday. The Dow Jones industrial average was up more than 3 points at the 1,197 level. It was up more than 3 in early trading.

The transportation average showed a rise of about 5 1/2 points.

Advancing issues were 7405 over declines. Trading continued moderate although ahead of Monday's unusually slow pace.

**International Business Machines** was 118 3/4, off 1 1/4; **General Electric** 49 3/8, up 1/2; **General Motors** 68 3/8, up 1/4.

## Panel to study two more complaints about BPCC

By Andrew Cornallie

Fresh complaints about the tactics used by British Printing & Communication Corporation in its takeover fight with John Waddington were lodged with the Takeover Panel yesterday.

The Panel was given details of two more instances where callers allegedly claiming to represent BPCC telephoned Waddington shareholders saying that BPCC had a higher percentage of bid acceptances than was the true figure. This brings the total number of cases being investigated by the Panel to five.

Mr John Hignett, director-general of the Panel, said that the Panel is still waiting for written evidence from the Waddington shareholders who claim to have been called by BPCC representatives in the last stages of the company's £18m takeover bid for Waddington.

### WALL STREET

**Monaco** 106 3/4, off 1 1/4; **Warner** 27 3/4, up 3/8; **Texaco** 114 1/2, unchanged; **Caterpillar** 38 7/8, off 1/2; **International Paper** 54 1/8, off 5/8; and **Motorola** 128 5/8, up 3/8.

**Halliburton** was off 7/8, at 43 5/8; **Synstar** down 1 1/8, to 21 7/8; **Times-Mirror** up 1 1/4, at 77 1/2; **Stamco** 21 1/2, up 1/4; **Katy Industries** off 7/8, at 21 7/8; **Southern Pacific** up 1 1/4, to 39 3/4; **Digital Equipment** up 2 3/8 to 98 1/2.

Mr Bristol claimed the time to do a deal was now and that anything could happen - "The drill bits could get blown up" - to complicate it later. He also claimed that Drilling's cash needs were mainly responsible for group gearing rising to 130 per cent of shareholders' funds, which was "totally unacceptable", and that this deal reduced gearing to 10 per cent.

Controversy then moved on to a \$6.7m loan now being the latest owed to KCA International for the management buy-out after a \$15m cash payment. Mr Bristol argued the note was worthwhile for two reasons. It generated 9 per cent interest per annum and could be converted into 18 million Drilling shares - 23 per cent of Drilling equity - at any time over the next "totally unacceptable", and that this deal reduced gearing to 10 per cent.

The shareholders who claim to have been called by BPCC representatives include Mrs Jane Whalley, a lawyer living in Yorkshire, and Mrs Ruth Bower, wife of Mr Christopher Bower, finance director at Waddington.

Representatives from Henry Ansbacher, BPCC merchant bank adviser, and Kleinwort Benson, which is advising Waddington on the bid, have already given evidence to the Panel.

BPCC has extended its takeover offer until a week today. Details of acceptances were unclear last night.

## KCA sale upsets meeting

By Wayne Lisout

Shareholders of KCA International, the oil exploration and services group, have expressed bitter disappointment over the price the company received from the management buy-out of its majority stake in the KCA Drilling subsidiary.

At yesterday's extraordinary general meeting to pass the sale, dissident shareholders were quick to remind directors that they had recommended the purchase of Drilling shares at 95p when a 25 per cent minority was floated only two years ago. The parent company was now selling the remaining stock at 37p a share.

Mr Paul Bristol, chairman and chief executive, spoke in favour of the deal, but, becoming angry, passed over board response to his merchant bankers and fellow directors.

### Wondered

The shareholders wondered why, if Drilling had such a good future and was going to be supported by the Chemical Bank, KCA needed to sell it at such a price and why it could not shove the sale for later when perhaps it would be more profitable.

Contradiction claims made recently by Chemical Bank, Mr Bristol said that the Drilling subsidiary had been draining the group of cash and had starved the other divisions of working capital.

The Chemical Bank, whose idea it was to separate the two and which had promised Drilling substantial financial support, claimed KCA International was draining off funds generated by Drilling thus preventing its profitable expansion.

Mr Bristol claimed the time to do a deal was now and that anything could happen - "The drill bits could get blown up" - to complicate it later. He also claimed that Drilling's cash needs were mainly responsible for group gearing rising to 130 per cent of shareholders' funds, which was "totally unacceptable", and that this deal reduced gearing to 10 per cent.

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## Weir dividend is cut as rescue rules bite

By Jeremy Warner

Weir Group, the Glasgow engineering company, has been forced to cut its interim dividend by a half to 0.375p after pretax profits in the first six months of the year slipped by £1.4m to £2.2m.

The 0.375p per share is the maximum the company can pay under articles of association imposed by the banks and shareholders involved in a £16m financial rescue two and a half years ago.

The articles, which are designed to offer the maximum protection for those who provided money during the rescue state that any ordinary dividend must be at least twice covered by available earnings.

Lord Weir, the group chairman, hinted that the company

might have paid more but for the restriction. "The reduction purely reflects the requirement in our articles of association," he said.

"What we might have paid but for this is a bit of an academic question. The constraint is there so we could not give consideration to a higher payment."

The final dividend looks likely to suffer the same fate since in order to maintain the amount paid last year, the group must make pretax profits of at least £5.6m.

The company said that results during the second half are expected to be generally similar to those of the first which would indicate a full year profit of no more than £4.4m against £7.6m last time.

On the stock market, Weir's share price fell to a year's low of 27p. It later recovered to close 4p down on the day at 30p.

The six-month profits were struck after taking account of the £1.2m cost of transferring pump manufacturer from Alder, in Scotland's Central region, and concentrating it at the Cathcart plant of Weir Pumps in Glasgow - a move that involved the loss of a further 430 jobs in the pumps division.

Profits were also affected by the lower contribution of associates from £1.6m to £436,000. This was caused largely by Pump Services Centres, which has been badly affected by a lack of orders from the Middle East oil industry. It slipped into losses.

Investor's Notebook, page 16

## Sotheby's decision due soon

By Philip Robinson

A government decision is expected within a fortnight on whether Mr Alfred Taubman, an American millionaire, may buy Sotheby's Park Bernet, the world's largest auction house.

Mr Taubman, who ranks among America's richest men, plans to pay \$33m for the auctioneers. He has bought out his opposition, fellow Americans Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, who opened the bidding for Sotheby's.

Both takeovers are being investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. But the commission has concentrated on Mr Taubman since Messrs Swid and Cogan said they would sell their shares to Mr Taubman if he was allowed to buy Sotheby's.

Sotheby's financial year ends today. At the half-way stage, reported in July, it had cut losses from £1.5m to £51,000 and was forecasting a 44m pretax profit for the whole year on a turnover unchanged at about £27.2m.

That would indicate a £7m turnaround - the group lost £3m for the year to August 1982 - and analysts suggest the company is capable of £10m profits. Last night the shares eased 2p to 662p.

## Sweden seeks record loan

IN BRIEF

Sweden is raising £250m through the largest sterling syndicated loan ever, the agent bank Samuel Montagu & Company said.

The deal calls for a six-year, non-callable loan with options to extend it up to 12 years. At the end of three and six years, lenders have the option to extend the life of the loan to nine and 12 years, respectively. Lenders will receive a 0.12 per cent fee for the first extension and a 0.25 per cent fee for the second.

For the first two years, the loan will be priced at 0.38 per cent over the London interbank offered rate for one, three or six-month sterling deposits at the borrowers' choice. The spread will rise to 0.50 per cent over Libor for the duration of the loan.

Sweden will draw 50 per cent of

brokers F E Wright UK, a wholly-owned Lloyds subsidiary.

© Elys (Wimbledon) the stores group, has pushed attributable profits up to £10.6m for the six-month period ended July against £7.4m the year before. It will pay an unchanged 10 interim dividend on December 5.

© Singapore Airlines (SIA) has reported a 112.9 per cent rise in profit to Sing \$47.7m (£14.9m) from its airline operations in the year ended March 31, although General Corporation Inc profit fell 16 per cent to Sing \$103m.

© Australia's 1983-84 wheat crop may be the second largest on record, according to estimates released by the government of agricultural economics forecasts a crop of 17.7 million metric tons, second only to the 18.1 million tons harvested in 1978-79.

## Double up at Francis Parker

Francis Parker  
Half-yearly to 30-6-83  
Pretax profit £505,000 (£245,000)  
Stated earnings 1.74p (0.80p)  
Turnover £12.3m (£10.2m)  
New interim dividend 0.525p (0.035p)

Francis Parker, the building materials group, more than doubled its pretax profits in the first half and expects to achieve a substantial increase for the year as a whole.

The company cited the mild winter and the upturn in house building as the reason for the increase.

It is looking at various opportunities to combine its expertise in the design and manufacture of building materials such as building blocks, with property development.

## Vaux buys four London pubs

Sunderland-based Vaux Breweries has paid £750,000 for four London pubs - its first in the capital. The four, including Holborn's Princess Louise, had gone into receivership.

Vaux had to top rival bids from at least two other provincial breweries. Each were keen to develop London operations.

The four pubs were part of a group, including three small breweries, which were at one time being groomed for a stock market share quote.

Until now Vaux had just one London outlet - the London International Hotel which it acquired two years ago from grand Metropolitan.

## Ivory & Sime PLC

(Incorporated in Scotland)

Authorised	Share Capital	Issued and fully paid
£200,000.00	in 200,000 17½ p cent Participating Preference Shares of £1 each	£200,000.00
£ 27,000.00	in 27,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 0.1p each	£ 24,454.30

## Personal Assets Trust PLC

(Incorporated in Scotland)

Authorised	Share Capital	Issued and fully paid
£2,000,000	in 16,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 12.5p each	£1,866,415.25

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the issued Ordinary Shares of Ivory & Sime PLC and Personal Assets Trust PLC to be admitted to the Official List. Particulars of both companies are available in the External Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 14th September, 1983 from:

Cazenove & Co.,  
19 Tottenham Yard,  
London EC2R 7AN  
31st August, 1983

Ivory & Sime PLC  
One Charlotte Square,  
Edinburgh EH2 4DZ

## Consumer nations' differences with Opec narrow New hopes for oil pricing accord

By David Young  
Energy Correspondent

A summit of the world's oil producers and the oil consuming nations is being proposed to avoid a repeat of the confusion over prices which happened in the late 1970s.

Proposals for talks between producers and consumers which could result in a long-term pricing policy were mooted in June when the four-man monitoring committee of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, met French cabinet ministers, under the chairmanship of M Claude Cheysson, the French foreign minister.

The proposed establishment of such talks fits in with the long-term strategy proposed by Saudi Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Oil Minister, according to *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly*, the oil industry's influential newsletter.

Opec has suggested talks with officials of the consuming nations, but the differences



Cheysson: Summit suggested at June meeting.

between producers and consumers have always been so great that such a meeting has been rejected by governments particularly the US, which has kept Opec at arms length.

The newsletter suggests that the differences are now so narrow that talks could start and a

committee of 10 "wise men" drawn from the producers and consumers could be formed before the end of the year. Diplomatic talks on the subject are likely to start early in September.

Opec also reports within Opec that the US companies who buy up to 80 per cent of Saudi Arabian oil output are "irritated" by a new company set up by Saudi interest to sell oil on the spot market.

Previously, oil which was not sold to the US ARAMCO consortium was marketed through Petromin, Saudi State oil company.

Now there is evidence that 10 per cent of Saudi output is appearing on the spot-market when Saudi output is running at 500,000 barrels a day above its Opec agreed quota of 5 million.

A new company, Norbec, with its head office in Switzerland and sales representatives in London, Houston and Hongkong, are selling Saudi crude directly to refineries.

The sales by-pass those handled by the Aramco members, Exxon, Texaco, Mobil and Standard Oil, but are not offered to any of the consortium existing outlets.

An Aramco spokesman said that the creation of the new company was directed against the consortium.

Opec officials suggest that the setting up of Norbec was a result of Aramco cutting purchases of Saudi oil last winter when the Saudi state oil agency refused to take part in the discounting which was then taking place.

Oil industry analysts say the Saudis feel that Aramco should have continued to buy from them at previous levels, particularly as in 1981 Saudi prices remained stable when others rose.

In London it has been suggested that the high-technology jargon used in the oil industry should be rewritten so that people outside the industry can understand the significance of oil discovery announcements and reserves quoted by producing countries.















## Yachting: sport as it once was in the America's Cup

## Victory turns a Nelsonian eye to defeat in contesting every wave

From David Miller, Newport, Rhode Island

There are only five factors which could make the Victory '83 any real hope of defeating Australia II in the America's Cup final eliminations series, and none of them offer much scope for optimism. This was reaffirmed when the Royal Perth Challenger outlasted her British rival on Monday only for the race ultimately to be abandoned.

Peter de Savary concedes that it is the misfortune of his planned \$3m campaign to have come up against a brilliant, innovative boat, even though publicly he is still as determined, as his crew were when six minutes down, to fight the Australians through every wave and windshift.

Yet these are only long-shot possibilities which might result in obtaining even one win in the best-of-seven series. The Victory '83 is either substantially ahead or substantially behind the line early and is recalled, 5, or the heavier weather above 14 knots with lumpy seas in which the Ian Howett design is thought to lose the race.

The plain truth, emphasized in Monday's light and variable breeze which at times failed away to three knots or less, is that Australia II is on average one and a half minutes faster on windward legs in 10-knot winds and half a minute to one minute slower downwind, which in conjunction with her one fifth of a length advantage on every tack is sufficient to guarantee victory if the start is level and Bertrand makes no mistakes. This advantage is magnified in time difference the closer the races.

Monday's race, abandoned after just over five hours, halfway down the final windward leg when it was obvious the 5 hours 15 minutes time limit would expire, lends substance to the accusation of Dennis Connor, helmsman of Liberty, that the Australians were "sundragging", or going slow, in the semi-final race won by Victory '83, when Bertrand failed to exploit his tacking advantage. In spite of strong evidence, it suddenly makes sense that the Australians would do nothing in that "dead" race to jeopardize crew energy.

The contradiction in de Savary's handling of the campaign could not have been more heavily and ironically underlined when he roared out for Monday's start in the 36-knot powerboat Lisania with Harry Cadmore and Bryan Willis sitting side by side on the aft sundeck.

Cudmore, visiting Newport in a hull between other commitments as possibly Britain's best helmsman, is the man who might have narrowed the gap with the Australians but left on mutual agreement several months ago when de Savary refused to compromise his squad system by making the Irishman overall skipper.

Three weeks ago de Savary also controversially dropped his other chief starting theorist, Phil Crebbin, and it is significant that an American invite to coach the British crew starts declined to do so unless Crebbin was in the afterguard.

Willis, who runs a yachting school on the Isle of Wight and is the country's leading rule expert, has been retained by de Savary exclusively to advise on start, manoeuvre and possible ways of putting pressure on the opposition which might have forced them into a critical error.

As we mill around with the hundreds of other spectator boats gathered for the start, 8 miles offshore, Willis drily observes: "The difference between fleet racing and match racing is as wide as between running and boxing. If you see the chance of a knockout blow, you deliver it."

North American crews again did well when the international 14-foot world championship got back on track yesterday, the morning race, won by the Canadian brothers, Jamie and Hugh Kidd. This was their second successive win.

Philip Morrison, a local sailor who designs boats and also makes the sails for them, was a popular runner-up, Morrison and his crew, Martin Goulet made spectacular progress round the course. They had been somewhere lower than twelfth at the first mark and gained places on every round.

Willis Henderson and Andrew Squire, who finished third, led for the first two legs, but the Kidds placed past them on the second and third legs and were never again threatened. Chris Benoit and Matt Blake, of the United States, were placed fourth and there were three more Canadian crews in the first eight to finish.

Willis, in conjunction with the navigator-tactician, Derek Clark, has been working on ways, which are too lengthy to explain here, to exploit the rules of the race to manoeuvre around the race committee stake-boat on the start line, which the rules obscurely classify in a quite different way from other obstructions on the water.

On Monday, under metal-grey weeping skies which merged with the sea, the tension was electrifying as the gleaming multi-million pound craft and the oil-skinned crews circled and swooped among the spectator boats following the 10-minute gun, just like the boxers of Willis's allusion.

When Lawrie Smith, looking for the windward side of the line, cleverly tacked through 108 degrees around the stern of a large motor yacht, Australia II produced one of her most astonishing spin-turn yet seen, revolving in almost her own length to go about back down the port side of the motor yacht on starboard tack and force Victory '83 away to the leeward end of the line.

Though Victory '83 had been smart, they had not been smart enough. When the gun went two seconds later Smith was across the line, level with Bertrand but to leeward, and within a quarter of a mile it was clear that Australia II was pointing some three degrees closer to the wind than Victory.

Barring accidents, the race was effectively over and Willis could put away his cassette recorder with a second-by-second commentary for later analysis and sunbathing on the five fruitless hours.

The excitement when, after four hours, Patisson inexorably closed in on Bertrand's error downwind, Victory having made a spinnaaker change, brought the race alight as they gybed towards the mark, but I fear it was a vain flourish.

The camaraderie between the British and Australian syndicates is as conspicuous and welcome as the hostilities of the NYCC have been ugly and gauche. Three times during Monday's race de Savary and Bond nosed in towards each other's huge support craft, more expensive even than the racing boats they have built, to exchange greetings and jests.

"Excuse me while I go and see my boys catch up," de Savary shouted, ignoring the six-minute deficit with Nelsonian indifference. The contemporary Victory nearly does catch up. Whatever the outcome, Bond, de Savary and their squads have given the America's Cup a taste of sport as it once was.

The two American syndicates are planning to test their own version of the winged keel fitted to Australia II, in an attempt to come up with a 12th place to match the Australians in the two weeks that remain before the Cup races begin Barry Pickthall writes.

Johan Valentijn, who designed Liberty, admitted that he had been researching the idea of winged keels throughout the campaign by the New York Yacht Club to have Australia II's winged keel design outlawed. The club withdrew their protest after Peter de Savary, head of the British Victory syndicate, revealed that the International Yacht Racing Union had given confidential approval for them a year ago.

Defender was transported to Copenhagen at the weekend for work to be added. Her designer, David Pedrick, drove up the coast to investigate, but was prevented from taking a close look.

Victory '83's race against Australia II yesterday was called off because of lack of wind.

## Kidds conquer Old World with ease

By John Nicholls

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Against Notts County last season, Foster the Brighton captain, was booked for dissent in the twenty-seventh minute, which took him over 31 points and in line for an automatic two-match suspension which would rule him out of the FA Cup final against Manchester United. Foster realized that if he was sent off for a second offence, his booking would be wiped out and replaced by a one-match ban that would enable him to play in the final.

Although Foster was pulled up for deliberate dissent and a couple of fouls, and appeared to make several comments to the referee, Norman Williams, who was sent off, and eventually missed Wembley after an unsuccessful appeal to the High Court.

Eight clubs - five from the League and three from the non-league - collected fines totalling £5,500 for averaging 5.22 disciplinary points per game last season. Wimbledon, the fourth division champions - the only club to reappear out of the six banned last season - were punished with a heavy £1,500 fine, half of which was suspended.

There was a tap on the shoulder and a friendly hand advanced. It was one of those embarrassing occasions of the former face in an unfamiliar background, defying instant recognition and it was not until the owner of the hand gestured towards the girl at his side that I identified him and he, they were Debbie Cottrell and her father, the same Debbie Cottrell who won the British figure skating championship for the second time in 1981, and yet not the same Debbie Cottrell at all.

Where before she had been shy and ill at ease in strange company, even in company not all that strange, she was now clearly relaxed and glowing in her sun-tanned self-confidence. She was, furthermore, among a group of golf correspondents whom she had never met and who probably never met again. This had all come to pass because her parents had chosen the same hotel for her sister's wedding, with Debbie as bridesmaid, as we had for our wedding.

It was a revelation to meet her again, partly because she had materialized in such an unexpected quarter, but mainly because she had undergone such a personality change since unexpectedly giving up an amateur skating career to turn professional. She had joined one of the Holiday on Ice companies and had flown off to Panama for an eight-month tour that took in the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil.

She was not, she said, aware that her character was changing but when she returned home last month, she was surprised to find that her personality had changed so much. She was now a confident, outgoing person, and she was no longer the shy, retiring girl who had been so long ago.

## Toshack is defiant FA close loophole

Est. Berlin (Reuter) - Swansea City, the Welsh Cup holders, have a difficult task ahead if they are to overcome Magdeburg and reach the first round proper of the European Cup Winners' Cup tournament.

The East Germans, who held Swansea to a 1-1 draw in the preliminary round first-leg match in Wales, last week, have made a good start to the new season and the campaign with a 1-0 home defeat by Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday.

However, Swansea's manager John Toshack, who led the club from the fourth division to the first in as many seasons before they were relegated in May, remains confident his side can reach the first round.

"We have not buried our hopes," he said. The Welshmen will have to contain the powerful Magdeburg forward Joachim Schuster, 28, who has scored 10 goals in 11 games for the East Germans. Swansea City: J. Rimmer, D. Lewis, G. Stacey, N. Williams, G. Marshall, N. Hollingsworth, L. J. Charles, K. Kennedy, A. Curtis, R. Letchford.

Phil Thompson, Liverpool's 39-year-old former captain, has rejected the chance of a move to Leicester City, the English international, who has won seven championship medals, is currently out of the Liverpool side. Liverpool are unchanged for tonight's match at Norwich, where they were recovering from a leg injury.

Norwich hope to have Channon in their team.

She no longer enjoyed the drudgery, as it had become, of training, and of which could be rewarded by one poor performance when it mattered. She suffered four minutes of free skating agony at Copenhagen in March last year. "You practise all year just for one moment," she recalls wistfully, "and you can just blow it like that."

Yet she confesses that she would not be the skater she is, in the position she is, without those long, cold hours of dedication from the age, in her case, of nine.

She knew that she would have to find a niche in skating because "whenever we had a holiday for four or five weeks I couldn't wait to get back to skating. I'd be lost without it". She was realistic enough to appreciate that she had not got a strong enough character to be a teacher and that a period of show skating, with its emphasis on self-projection, would remain that one gap in her credentials.

After two, perhaps three, years with Holiday on Ice, she feels she has found the one personality she needs for that role, old enough to command respect, young enough for her prowess as a competitor still to be remembered.

Towards the end she was training in Lake Placid, New York State, with Emmerich Danzer, a former world champion, and it was he who guided her in the direction of Holiday on Ice, once he saw that her mind, unlike his, was made up. He would have liked her to give it one more year.

Venturing into the wide world on her own two talented feet, she was anxious to start with, thinking "God, have I made the right decision". She knew only one member of the show's company when they assembled at Heathrow for the flight to Panama City, a fellow Solihull skater, John Stewart, but by the time they arrived she was already one of the gang.

In due time she formed a warm friendship with Beatrice Anquetil, niece of a famous French cyclist, and that has helped in the final transition from duckling (but never an ugly one) to graceful swan.

On professional ice she had, at first, been "nervous about things falling off" was strange wearing clip-on earrings, jewelry, flowers in the hair, but after the first night it was fine.

Show skating was a different form, "stronger on presentation and choreography than technically". She never does any triple jumps or double axels in the show, leaving the

double luts as the most advanced jump in her programme. She is still learning, she claims. "We watch each other, and each other's. She is one of the two lady principals in the show, with two solo spots of about two and a half minutes each.

During the tour she was usually billed "as the British star, or something like that", but the management took no chances in Argentina, with the Falklands war still etched deeply in the national consciousness. For their purposes she was a "European star", but she has a warm spot for Argentina.

"Buenos Aires is a beautiful, European-type city," she says, "with a nice climate, at least when we were there, and nice people. She has watched the last world championships on a video recording

and has her favourites, Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean are "just marvellous, getting better all the time when you think there can't be any more room for improvement". Rosalynn Summers, the new world champion, and Katarina Witt are "appealing to her among those who would be her rivals had she not taken the plunge that surprised the skating world.

But "I have absolutely no regrets", she says, and, seeing her happily snuggled up in an armchair in the Cottrells' elegant family home at Balsall Compton, you can easily understand why. Her company are in Europe this winter, starting at Le Havre on September 6. She can hardly wait.

John Hennessy

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## CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Lloyd's Brokers

The Chairman of a Lloyd's insurance brokerage Group is seeking an experienced Secretary/PA to work in new air-conditioned offices near Liverpool Street Station.

The Company specialises in all classes of Marine and Non-Marine Insurance both direct and re-insurance and as Lloyd's Brokers has offices in Europe, the Far and Middle East and the USA.

The position will be suitable for someone who is seeking a major career involvement and the successful candidate will have achieved a high standard of education and be a very experienced Secretary with excellent speeds in shorthand and typing. The candidate will use modern word-processing equipment on which training will be given. In addition to secretarial skills the person must be capable of working on their own initiative with the minimum of direction and be able to deal efficiently and diplomatically with people at all levels.

The position provides challenge and responsibility and is likely to include integrity, tact and the ability to work under pressure. A competitive salary in excess of £10,000 will be offered in line with experience, and benefits include 30 working days holiday, pension vouchers and season ticket loan.

Please apply to Box 1128H The Times

## Directors' Secretaries

PolyGram has interests in records and tapes, music publishing, TV, films and video.

We are looking for several senior secretaries to work for Directors within our International Group Management. A flexible approach, initiative, tact and discretion are all as important as top secretarial skills in these roles. Ideal candidates will have previous experience in the music industry and/or working in a dynamic international environment.

These interesting and varied positions offer excellent salaries, annual bonus, LVs and 25 days annual holiday.

If you are aged 25+ and feel you possess the necessary qualities please write with detailed CV and your daytime phone number to:

Joy Hamlyn, Personnel Officer,  
PolyGram Leisure Ltd.,  
15 Saint George Street,  
London W9 9DE.

PolyGram

## Foreign Editor's Secretary

The Financial Times newspaper is looking for an experienced Secretary to work with a team of journalists specialising in international news coverage. Work includes providing a confidential secretarial service to the Foreign Editor as well as dealing with administration for the company's overseas correspondents. Applicants should be over 25, with an 'A' level education and good shorthand/typing skills. Other essential requirements are administrative experience, a good telephone manner, a mature and flexible approach to work and the ability to work well under pressure.

Salary £7,241 p.a., 4 weeks' holiday, rising to 5 after one year's service, season ticket loan scheme, subsidised canteen.

Please telephone the Personnel Department on 01-236 9758 for an application form or write giving full details to Susan Smith, Personnel Officer, The Financial Times Ltd, Bankers House, 10 Cannon Street, London, EC4A 3DF.

## TRILINGUAL PA

c.£12,000 plus benefits

An international business executive requires a first class PA to set up and run his luxury office in EC2. With the backing of a major US group this is a new venture specialising in the world travel. The ideal candidate will have French and English shorthand (100 wpm), fluent German together with similar experience, aged 28-45.

Other requirements are the ability to act on own initiative, handle work at the highest level, a willingness to attend social evening functions and a current driving licence.

This is an exciting, responsible position in a dynamic, professional team.

Please Ring 588 3535

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

## PA/SECRETARY

West End £7,200

Required by Chairman of small group of companies involved in the music and video industry. The successful applicant will have good shorthand and audio skills and be capable of dealing with a variety of admin duties. Send C.V. to the chairman

MVS INVESTMENTS LTD.

126 Great Portland St, London W1

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## TV PROGRAMME SALES ADMIN.

Television Programme Distribution Company seeks an International Sales Administration Executive. Ideal opportunity for someone with executive secretarial experience who is seeking advancement. Must be efficient, self-motivated, and capable of composing & typing correspondence.

Television experience not essential but candidates should have a minimum of 5 years business experience.

Salary negotiable up to £10,000.

Please send CV marked Private & Confidential to Mrs June Morrow, Anthony Morris (London) Ltd, 6 Goodwin's Court, St Martin's Lane, WC2N 4LL.

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